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Judicial Hearings Begin as Faculty Challenge Process

By Will DiGravio and Alex Newhouse
News Editor and Features Editor

The first official judicial hearing for students who participated in the March 2 protests against Dr. Charles Murray is scheduled to take place today, May 4, as of press time.

The hearing will examine the cases of at least 18 respondents — the official term for students who have been charged with violating the College Handbook. The respondents requested to have their hearing as a large group.

The College offered students the option to have their case heard individually, as a member of a small group, or as part of the large group. At the time of this report, no students have chosen to testify as a small group, while a few have opted for an individual hearing. Individual hearings have yet to be scheduled.

The College is viewing the events of March 2 as two separate protests. The first is the protest that prevented Murray from speaking after he took the stage. The second is the one that continued in Wilson Hall as the College live-streamed a conversation between Murray and Allison Stanger, professor of international politics and economics.

Students whom the College believes participated in both the first and second protests are those who are facing official college discipline, and who have opted to go forward with the judicial process. Official punishment is anything that goes on a student's permanent record.

As reported in the April 27 issue of *The Campus*, the College has already placed more than 30 students on probation for participating in the first protest. Probation is a form of unofficial discipline, and means that a student will have a letter placed in their file that will be removed at the end semester, as long as they do not violate another college policy.

The 18 students who are proceeding with Thursday's hearing are not contesting that they violated the "Demonstrations and Protest" policy of the College Handbook. Rather, the hearing will determine the type of sanction that those students will receive. Students who want to challenge the College's account of what occurred or object to the College's ruling have been provided with other adjudication options. At this time, it is unclear exactly what those options are. However, according to one person familiar with the situation, they will most likely consist of separate hearings.

As a response to the way in which the administration has conducted the investigation into the events of March 2, a group of students, with support from faculty members, planned to conduct a sit-in protest in the Services Building on Friday, April 28. Their goal was to push the Middlebury College administration to be more transparent regarding the disciplinary process for students involved in the Murray protests.

The sit-in corresponded with greater efforts from faculty members to seek information from administrators regarding the disciplinary proceedings. Laurie Essig, associate professor of sociology and gender, sexuality, and feminist studies, Linus Owens, associate professor of sociology and Sujata Moorti, professor of gender, sexuality and feminist studies, were among a group of faculty members who reached out to the administration. Initially, they were hoping for more information from the meeting to better understand the disciplinary process and help students who are facing hearings.

"Our original plan was to support students who wanted to take a stand against the opacity of the judicial process," Moorti said. "We had invited other faculty to join us as well."

According to Essig and Owens, they were able to set up meetings with Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott and Provost Susan

SEE ADMIN, PAGE 2

MICHAEL O'HARA

President of Middlebury Laurie L. Patton and Dr. Charles Murray moments before Murray took the stage and student-led protests prevented him from delivering a scheduled lecture on March 2.

Student Government Recommends Changes to Handbook's Protest Policy

By Will DiGravio
News Editor

The Student Government Association (SGA) passed a resolution at their April 23 meeting that recommended a series of changes to the "Demonstrations and Protests" section of the College Handbook.

The bill aims to change the language of the Handbook in order to better protect the rights of student protestors. The bill was authored and sponsored by Community Council Co-Chair Travis Wayne Sanderson '19 and Brainerd Senator and Community Council Co-Chair-Elect Kyle Wright '19.5.

According to current Handbook language, any violation of the College's "Demonstrations and Protests" policy "may result in College discipline." It also states that "disruption may also result in arrest and criminal charges such as disorderly conduct or trespass." The first recommendation made by the bill is to change the word "disruption" in the final sentence to "violent disruption."

"Currently, as the policy stands, any form of disruption can be responded to with arrest or criminal charges. Disruption is defined in the policy as including the holding of signs, so technically speaking, if the policy says that you can respond to the holding of signs with criminal charges, there's a problem," Sanderson said. "We wanted to refine that so it just said violent, so that it narrowed the scope by which you could have such severe consequences."

The second recommendation is to alter the Handbook policy that reads: "Distribution of materials such as leaflets may not be confrontational and must allow people to decline to receive the materials." The resolution calls for the removal of the phrase "may not be confrontational." Sanderson said that the current language is "ridiculous" and seemed "relatively easy to fix," and that there was no conflict within the SGA itself over the recommendation.

Another recommendation is to insert language into the Handbook that explicitly prevents Public Safety officers from using violent force. The language reads: "Public Safety, as well as outside security and contractors hired by Middlebury College or its affiliates, not including state or federal law enforcement, may not use violent force against students unless they, or another individual, are first acted upon violently by those students."

According to Sanderson, the recommendation is simply putting into words what Public Safety already practices.

"There was absolutely no clarification as to the situations in which Public Safety could use violent force as a tactic for response," Wright said. "Though Public Safety has clarified to the Community Council that it is not their practice to use violence in responding to cases of disruption or protest, the fact that that language wasn't clarified, I think, for us, left it far too open-ended."

SEE SGA, PAGE 2

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ADDRESSES CULTURAL APPROPRIATION IN DINING HALL MENUS

By Sabine Poux
Arts & Sciences Editor

The Community Council has unanimously called for the College to reassess and change the names of dining menu items that may be deemed offensive.

The recommendation, sponsored by Charles Rainey '19 and passed on April 25, outlines a plan that will foster collaboration between Dining Services and cultural organizations to address "the issue of ethnic dish names and their problematic appropriation of various identities."

Students and alumni of color have vocalized their concerns about these names to Rainey since he came to the College, and he decided that a recommendation would be an effective way to bring these voices to light.

"I'm a sophomore and I've been hearing concerns about dining hall names since I got here on campus," Rainey said, "and the spirit of the bill was more to include those concerns in the decision making process when naming ethnic dishes."

Cultural organizations will play a major part in facilitating these conversations.

"What the recommendation called for is to have Dining Services spend the semester going over the names with the Chief Diversity Officer and with any cultural organizations that are willing," said Travis Wayne Sanderson '19, co-chair of community council.

Sanderson emphasized that these talks will involve members of cultural organizations because Community Council wants to insure that the suggestions coming through are valuable and contribute to conversations about diversity in a meaningful way.

"[The recommendation] affects specific students," he said, "and those students should have a form by which to express that, and that's the main intention."

However, Sanderson and Rainey both noted that they only want to involve willing cultural organizations, as to not place additional burden on organizations that already have their hands full.

"Having been involved with

SEE CC, PAGE 3

New Plan Alters Employee Health Care Coverage

By Hye-Jin Kim
Senior Writer

Editor's Note: This article is the third in a series that will examine the current financial state of the College. In recent years, the College has run budget deficits and has been forced to rein in spending in order to ensure long term financial stability. These articles will aim to inform the Middlebury community about the College's financial situation, dispel rumors, raise new questions and, hopefully, spark new debates about how the College operates and spends its money.

The administration is devising a new health care plan, slated for January 2019, to help the College cut back on spending after running a five-year deficit.

Still administered through Cigna, the new health benefits will include a menu of plans: platinum, silver, gold and possibly bronze. Albeit more expensive, the new platinum plan will be comparable to the current one offered to all employees, while the bronze plan would provide the least coverage (and highest deductibles) for lower premiums. What you pay for is what you get.

Currently, the College foots 80 percent of the bill minus the copay or deductible for most health services. Visits that fall

SEE COLLEGE, PAGE 3

INSIDE

GREEN MTN. ADVENTURES ON MAIN STREET

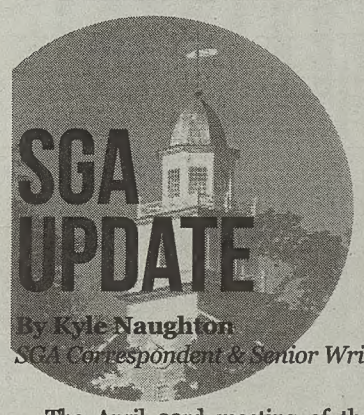
PAGE 4

FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

PAGE 12-13

UNDERWATER OPERA 'BREATHE'

PAGE 16



By Kyle Naughton
SGA Correspondent & Senior Writer

The April 23rd meeting of the Student Government Association (SGA) began with senatorial updates regarding constituent feedback. Senator Pustejovsky first outlined her constituents' concern over the current laundry system and the limited amount of options available to students. Doug Adams, the Associate Dean of Students for Residential and Student Life, stated that the SGA could potentially work alongside business services and the laundry vendor to eventually establish an alternative system.

Kevin Benscheidt presented the SGA Finance Committee (SGAFC) end of year report, asserting that this year's expenditure of around $1.1 million was slightly less than last year's.

The April 30th meeting of the SGA began with a discussion of the new housing system and the glitches that occurred during the registration process. Doug Adams asserted that after the system reboot on Wednesday, rising juniors and seniors could complete their housing registration without issues. Sophomores' subsequent registration issues were eventually resolved, and the single/double draw would resume on Monday May 1st.

Colin Mackintosh '17 presented the Endowment Affairs Report, stating that the college's endowment has largely recouped all of its prior losses. However, David Provost, Middlebury's Vice President for Finance, wants the college to transition from its current state of running a deficit into a system where revenues equal costs. Provost hopes to work with the SGA to determine what is financially important to students and save as many funds as the college can.

Senator Aaron and Senator Goldfield presented their Academic Freedom and Diversity Bill alongside Ivan Valladares '17. This bill strives to reaffirm Middlebury's commitment to the preservation of freedom of speech by enabling speakers to come to campus without the threat of disruption while also enforcing students' right to peaceful protests that do not interrupt a speaker with the intent to censor. The co-sponsors stressed that this legislation was targeted towards fostering an open and inclusive campus where opposing viewpoints may be properly discussed and debated without the need for violence or censorship.

Senator Pustejovsky was uncertain over the specific changes this bill would implement that were not already incorporated into Middlebury's handbook, questioning the need to define language that would most likely be ignored anyway. Senator Aaron responded that students' tendency to ignore language regarding free-speech is particularly problematic and requires the college to reaffirm its commitment to diverse viewpoints.

Senator Fleischer and Senator Duran questioned the timing of this bill regarding both the passage of the Protest Reform Bill on April 23rd and the multitude of students currently facing charges for protesting Charles Murray's event. Senator Wright expressed the need to further define the right to free speech within an inclusive atmosphere. Valladares responded that this bill and students' right to protest are not mutually-exclusive, and that this bill is a good starting point to begin constructive discussions regarding the freedom of speech.

Senator Pustejovsky suggested that the SGA pushes the bill onto next year's Senate rather than voting on it after a single week. Matthew Lantin '19.5 asserted that many students on campus agree with this bill, and that tabling it for next year might be interpreted as an aversion from properly discussing the freedom of speech. While the bill was ultimately tabled, its co-sponsors remained insistent that the SGA vote on the legislation the following week.

Senator McCarthy then presented the Student Advisory Bill that strived to create a reliable Student Advisory Committee for all departments that include informal advising for majors and classes. This bill also sought to make the contact information of students on the Committees more accessible online. The legislation was unanimously approved.

SGA Recommends New Protest Policies

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The resolution comes as the College is investigating more than 70 students it believes may be subject to disciplinary procedures for participating in the protests that prevented Dr. Charles Murray from delivering a scheduled lecture on March 2. According to the College, more than 30 students have already accepted disciplinary sanctions.

Wright and Sanderson's resolution recommends that the College "reconsider any discipline leveled against students involved in the protests against Charles Murray and Middlebury College that were founded in the wording of the college Handbook prior to the passing of this bill." In short, if the resolution were to be implemented by the College, then the new Handbook language would be retroactively applied to those who participated in the March 2 protests.

Sanderson justified retroactively applying the changes by citing a Nov. 13 protest against President-elect Donald Trump, after which the College did not enforce its own policies.

"According to the policy, that [protest] could have been defined as disruptive and not designated. The protest policy calls for having a designated protest area, having it approved by public safety, etc. We had none of that, there was no enforcement [of the policy]," Sanderson said.

He argued that since current policies are not consistently enforced, it is not fair for the College to discipline students.

"Given the fact that there was no enforcement of the policy until it was convenient, there's a problem. If you are only enforcing the policy as a means to attack, which is exactly what's happening now, what needs to happen is the commitment to enforce the policy in a more consistent and more neutral way," he said.

"If you have one, a policy that they only enforce when [the College] wants to, and two, a policy that is not complete to begin with, then I don't believe that policy is a valid thing by which to judge people because it's not objective in the first place, it's not fully thought out. If you have a policy that is not fully thought out, a policy that is not being enforced fully in the first place, then that should not be used to punish protesters, regardless of the fact that it happened before the [proposed] policy changes happened."

Wright agreed, citing retroactive action as a norm used by legislative bodies.

"If we're trying to make a philosophical case for why retroactive action works, there are laws passed through Congress all the time that work retroactively, because the conversation has never been about adherence to the rules, it's been about whether or not those rules are just," he said. "If they're not in the best interest of the student body, I don't know why we would have a precedent wherein everything that was done in the case of that rule remains valid. We're hoping to have a talk not about rules and adherence to rules necessarily, but whether or not those rules exclude or include people in ways that are meaningful to people on this campus."

The SGA Senate passed the resolution 10-3-1. First-Year Senator Jack Goldfield '20, Cook Senator Connor McCormick '18, and Feb Senator Rae Aaron '19.5 voted against the resolution.

Aaron said that she supported making changes to the College Handbook's current protest policies; however, she disagreed with retroactively applying them to the Murray-investigations.

"In order to make effective long term updates to the College's antiquated protest policies to empower marginalized voices, the community should engage in thorough inclusive dialogue rather than make abrupt alterations to the Handbook aimed at retroactively excusing students for breaking College policies," she said.

Vice President for Communications and Chief Marketing Officer Bill Burger said that the College has yet to conduct its regular review of the College Handbook.

"We welcome any suggestions that the community has," he said.

AMY GOODMAN OF DEMOCRACY NOW! DELIVERS LECTURE

By Bridget Colliton
Contributing Writer

On April 26, Amy Goodman, broadcast journalist, syndicated columnist, investigative reporter and author, delivered a keynote address to more than 200 audience members in Wilson Hall. Goodman's visit to the College is part of a tour promoting her new book, coauthored with Dennis Moynihan and David Goodman, "Democracy Now!: Twenty Years Covering the Movements Changing America".

Goodman founded the progressive, independent national news program Democracy Now! in 1966. Democracy Now! focuses its coverage on social movements often ignored by larger media outlets and seeks to amplify the voices of average Americans. In her speech, Goodman discussed some of the program's most pressing stories, including Standing Rock, the revolutions in Tunisia and Occupy Wall Street. "I deeply think that those who are concerned about war and peace, those who are concerned about the growing inequality in this country, those who care about climate change, racial, economic and social justice and LGBTQ issues, are not the fringe minority. They are not even a silent majority, but the silenced majority: silenced by the corporate media which is why we have to take it back," Goodman said.

Dennis Moynihan — former outreach director of Democracy Now! and uncle of Maeve Moynihan '17 — and David Goodman — husband of 2016 Vermont gubernatorial candidate Sue Minter and brother of Amy Goodman — introduced her. Goodman's speech focused on the importance of independent journalism in amplifying voices of resistance, especially in the Trump era. Goodman shared several examples of Democracy Now's work in documenting social justice movements, including those that arose recently in Arkansas during the three recent double executions and during Occupy Wall Street. "I remember the corporate media and how they were dealing with Occupy. First they didn't cover it for like a week, and this is in the media metropolis of the world: New York City. And then they start to ridicule it. This was not a leaderless movement, it was a leader-full movement," Goodman said.

After learning of Goodman's interest in coming to Middlebury, Moynihan worked with a variety of student organizations, faculty members and members of the community to plan and publicize the event. Moynihan worked with the Vermont Book Shop, located in downtown Middlebury, to publicize the event to both students and community members. The large interest drawn from community members caused Moynihan to change the location from Dana Auditorium to Wilson Hall. "My uncle Dennis has worked with Amy and Democracy Now! for a number of years, so she has been a close family friend to me for many years. The book tour was the perfect opportunity to have them speak at Middlebury," Moynihan said. "I hope students and visitors left the event with a deeper understanding of what is actually going on in our world and a deeper commitment to independent media."

Democracy Now! airs on WRMC 91.1 and online Monday through Friday at 7 PM EST.

Admin Addresses Concerns

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Baldridge prior to the sit-in. These meetings were planned to occur at the same time that students, with support from the faculty, had decided to stage the aforementioned sit-in protest at the Services Building.

However, as students and faculty gathered at Crossroads Cafe in preparation for the sit-in, both groups decided to merge the events. Dean of Students Baishakhi Taylor came to the gathering to answer questions at the request of Moorti, according to both Taylor and Moorti.

The crowd of students grew over the course of about two hours. Tyler McDowell '19, a student who attended, estimated that 40 to 70 students and 10 to 15 professors showed up. Eventually, both Smith Abbott and Baldridge arrived to answer questions.

According to McDowell, many students asked questions about why the disciplinary process has not been a "restorative justice" model. He said administrators explained that there was an attempt last year to implement such a model, but it failed.

In a comment given to *The Campus*, Katy Smith Abbott said, "I am working hard on a plan for bringing Restorative Practices training to campus beginning in June."

Restorative justice is a method of discipline that emphasizes reconciliation with victims and the community at large.

"Middlebury could have gone forward with a non-punitive and restorative process," Essig said. "A decision could have been made that rather than holding students and only students responsible, all involved parties could have been invited to sit down to figure out what happened, what harm was caused and how dissent can happen in the future in productive ways."

In the end, Moorti said, the administrators decided to allow students to choose a group hearing.

"The meeting has produced mixed results — a shift in the nature of the hearings but no substantive shift toward restorative justice or a clarification of how and what distinguishes unofficial from official college discipline," she said.

Essig also described the meeting as having at least some positive effects.

"I think Friday showed a possibility that Middlebury as an institution can occasionally stop and actually listen to students when members of the community stand up for our shared values," she said. "I hope that Friday's small and momentary break in business as usual might signal that as an institution Middlebury can stop punishing protesters and decide to incorporate dissent into its notions of free speech and academic freedom in the future."

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

MCAB Trivia Night
Join MCAB for a night of trivia and grille food!
TODAY AT 9 P.M. IN CROSSROADS CAFE

Iron Eyes Cody Concert
Middlebury's Iron Eyes Cody is coming back to campus to perform, good vibes guaranteed.
FRIDAY AT 7 P.M. IN GAMMUT ROOM

Zumba
Come take a break and work up a sweat dancing in Wilson Hall.
SUNDAY AT 4 P.M. IN WILSON HALL

MCAB Free Friday Film 5/12
Join MCAB as they screen the popular Disney film "Zootopia."
FRIDAY, MAY 12 AT 6 P.M. IN DANA AUDITORIUM

CC Talks Cultural Appropriation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cultural orgs, I know how important it is to not give additional responsibilities to orgs who already do so much for our community and are doing more as the school continues to diversify and their membership grows," Rainey said.

The administration also wants to stress that members of the College community are welcome at any time to approach Executive Director of Food Service Operations Dan Detora with their concerns.

"We are happy, and I know Dan Detora is happy, to speak with any student or group of students who have suggestions about either names of menu items or the way menu items are prepared," said Vice President for Communications and Chief Marketing Officer Bill Burger.

One of the main concerns the recommendation expresses is that certain dishes' names reflect cultural generalizations, and that naming a dish after a continent disregards the variety of perspectives and cultures that are represented within that continent. According to the recommendation, this is inconsistent with the College's value of diversity and inclusivity.

"Certain offensive names include the frequent appearance of 'African Peanut Soup' and 'Asian Snap Pea Salad,' among others," the recommendation stated. "These menu item names minimize the importance of other cultures and civilizations of the world that are not Western, lumping them together into one category. This signals a lack of attentiveness to the diversity of certain identities not traditionally represented in our community."

Rainey added that consideration for authenticity is important and can also help students learn about the cultural context behind their meals.

"If you're going to dive into a culture, I don't think it's too much to ask for you to know a little bit more about where it's from and what it's about," he said. "And any way in which I can help make the campus more inclusive in that regard, I'm gonna do."

Middlebury's move toward a more thoughtful food-naming process is not the first of its kind — students at Oberlin expressed similar concerns last year and underwent conversations to address these issues.

"I've heard about these requests happening at other institutions, so this was not new, I think, to anyone in the administration," said Burger. "I think that in this country, where a lot of cuisines and traditions around food come together, there's been a lot of amalgamation, and a lot of Americanization of different ethnic and regional and national cuisines, and I don't think that Middlebury is a particular offender about this, but we probably reflect the kind of national composition of the blending of cultures and cuisines and how some of these things may be less authentic than they might otherwise be."

Sanderson sent out a student-wide email about the recommendation on the date of its passing. One sarcastically disapproving response he received came from a student who had recently transferred from the College, and has since gained national recognition in an article published to the Barstool Sports website, titled, "Middlebury Got Rid Of Some 'Cultural Appropriation' Food Items And A Student Gave A Quality Email Burn Back."

Sanderson did not seem bothered by the "Email Burn" or the article that followed.

"I just think that it's another iteration of a major problem in conversation about cultural appropriation," Sanderson said. "Since last year with the Oberlin instance of the same sort of thing happening, it's become this major strawman to attack on the right, and it's viewed often as just being 'not important, so why are we wasting time on this,' and I mean there's a valid conversation there, but I think that honestly the article was just unnecessary."

Rainey is proud of the progress Community Council is able to make on issues that matter. He encourages students to come to Community Council meetings — which take place every Tuesday from 4:30-6 in Axinn 220 — if they have concerns they want to address. Rainey looks forward to the conversations that are to come.

"I think it's a necessary recommendation and I'm proud that we passed it, however I'm ready to move on to bigger fish to fry," he said.

College to Alter Employee Health Plans due to Financial Pressure

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

under preventative care like immunizations, mammograms and routine dental check-ups are completely paid for. "Any which way you look at it, this is a rich [health benefits] plan," said Cheryl Mullins, director of human resources.

But that plan is likely to change. Faced with an operating loss that's ballooned to nearly $17 million this year, college administrators are looking for ways to spend less. Spending outpaced revenue for five consecutive years, according to treasury reports; the last time the College "broke even" was in 2012. To get a grip on its operating deficit, Middlebury is sacrificing other amenities to prioritize academic spending. For students, this translates to changes like shortened dining hall hours and rises in tuition. For college employees, it means another change to their health plan.

This fall, the College switched administrators from CBA Blue – a subsidiary of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont that insures nearly 90 percent of Vermonters -- to Cigna, a company that offers coverage in all 50 states and overseas. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners ranked Cigna as the seventh largest health provider in the U.S. by market share, and Forbes Magazine listed it as the fourth most-valued company among national competitors.

The switch, something that Bill Burger, vice president of communications and chief marketing officer, said is common and "usually no big deal" at other institutions, has generated more than a handful of complaints, about things like filing more paperwork or lobbying for claim approval from faculty and staff alike.

"I would not argue that CBA Blue took a little more liberal view of what is 'medically necessary,'" Mullins said, citing teeth bleaching as a cosmetic procedure that might have once been approved. In 2016, the College spent about $20.5 million on healthcare. The switch to Cigna and its more stringent process for approving claims slimmed Middlebury's annual health bill by $800,000, according to school records.

Middlebury was not the only college to switch to Cigna this fall, nearby Champlain College and St. Michael's College did as well. The three schools make up the Green Mountain Higher Education Consortium, a partnership formed in 2013 for better bargaining power. The tagline on its website: "Efficiency and reducing costs is what Green Mountain Higher Education Consortium is all about."

The proposed three or four-tier plan would be negotiated through the consortium. Norwich University, the nation's oldest military college roughly 50 miles east of Middlebury, will likely hop onboard as well. The new health plan is a big draw, according to Burger.

Today, the College offers the same coverage for everyone who works full-time, regardless of age, health and job title – an engineer who runs the biomass plant and his family of four have the same plan as a tenured professor who lives alone. According to administrators, this one-size-fits-all policy isn't just generous, it's overkill. "Right now, we're over-insuring," said Vice President of Human Resources Karen Miller at an open meeting on March 21 in Wilson Hall. "Could we be lowering the cost to the College while providing health insurance?"

In 2016, college employees chipped in roughly 20 percent of the total $20 million healthcare cost through premium payments. In the private sector, those insured often pay a bigger slice – in the high 20's or low 30's. "We're insulated from the market reality," Burger said. "We need to have our employees pay more in premiums."

At the College, biweekly premiums are determined on an income-sensitive scale; the more you make, the more you pay. A staff member making $20,000 per year pays $21 for the same coverage as a high-level administrator paying $141 from their $200,000 income.

Instead of signing everyone up for the one-size-fits-all health coverage, Miller said offering four different plans give employees the "choice" to save money, especially if they are young, healthy and single. And under the bronze plan, a health savings account would be included to help pad the risk of a major medical emergency.

Some professors oppose the change because it'll likely mean higher premiums for the same health coverage. The new plans will likely cost the most for employees on the mid to higher-end of the pay-scale due to the effect of income sensitivity in calculating premiums. "And I am certain we will keep income sensitivity," Mullins said.

There are also concerns that those who can't afford the most expensive plan will lose out on health care – that the proposed changes will likely hurt staff members already paid the least. Will employees with big families and smaller paychecks, unable to afford higher premiums, be left out in the cold?

At the open meetings in March, professors spoke out against the new plans. "It's insurance," said mathematics professor Priscilla Bremser. "I can't tell you what my medical tests next week are going to tell me. I think a healthy twenty-year-old could end up with leukemia tomorrow, and heaven forbid that twenty-year-old be on the wrong color plan."

Bremser remained skeptical of how practical or beneficial a flex fund might be for those on cheaper plans with less coverage. "You can save ahead of time for health care, but not for something that ends up costing tens of thousands of dollars, especially if you're on the lower end of the pay-scale at this college," she said.

Of the roughly twenty people who showed up to Wilson Hall for a recent faculty and staff meeting about health benefits, most were professors. An employee in dining operations said many staff members either didn't know or didn't care enough to speak out against the changes. Wary of engaging in public debate against his employer, he refused to be identified by name. "There's no leadership, no one on staff is willing to step up and lead it. And any talk of unionizing must be reported to higher bosses," he said.

On the other hand, a recent college hire said the new changes were nothing to panic about. She was shocked at not being asked to choose a health plan at all in her contract. "I've lived this for over 20 years. I've seen it work for people," she said. "You can never predict what your health is going to be, but the bottom will not fall out. We will all be insured. I think giving it a chance will be worthwhile."

And if the platinum plan ends up costing a lot more than the current premium? "Well, I'm screwed," the dining employee said. "I have a big family."

DISPATCHES FROM MONTEREY

By Caitlin Towers
Monterey Correspondent

This April, the Middlebury Institute of International Studies became the first graduate school to be named a Fair Trade University. Over the course of this academic year, students have been working to complete a fair trade campaign for the Institute. This process entailed increasing the number of fair trade products for sale on campus, integrating fair trade dialogues into the classroom, and creating a resolution about the Institute's commitment to fair trade that is passed through the administration. This process has brought awareness of fair trade to the campus for current students, but the commitment of the administration represents a continued dedication to fair trade in years to come.

On April 14, a public forum took place at MIIS entitled "Setting the Course: California Leadership in the Age of Trump". Three state government officials sat on the panel: Assemblymember Mark Stone, State Secretary of Natural Resources John Laird and the State Senator Bill Monning, who was previously a faculty member at the Institute. The Forum addressed the discrepancies between state and federal views on climate change and the responsibility of the state government to stand strong on environmental issues under the current administration. Alongside environmental issues, the panel addressed social issues such as California's high incarceration rate. Panelists reminded attendees that no issue is isolated, and drew immigration policy and economic opportunities into the discussion of climate change.

Nonproliferation experts at MIIS have played critical roles in media coverage of North Korea's nuclear program over the past few weeks. Recent tests of weapons as well as a military parade in honor of the nation's founding leader on April 15 have heightened international coverage of the country's nuclear program, and a variety of experts from MIIS's James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies have been sought out as resources as national and international media sources work to analyze news and images related to North Korea's nuclear program.

The United Nations' annual translation contest awarded two out of its six 2016 student prizes to students of the Middlebury Institute on April 21. Shuai Wang won the student prize in the Chinese category, and Amy Mendenhall won the student prize in the English category, translating from Spanish. Shuai and Amy are studying translation and localized management and conference interpretation, respectively.

The Institute is one of 23 international institutions that have signed memorandums of understanding with the UN, ensuring cooperation in training future language professionals for the UN's language examinations. Membership in this network allows students at the Institute to submit to this annual St. Jerome Translation Contest, and students are competing with future professionals in the fields of translation and interpretation across the globe.

The Middlebury Institute stretched earth day into earth week this April, with events ranging from April 17 up until the 27th. The week began with an invitation for students to sign a no-plastic-pledge for the week as the Ocean Club brought students' attention to our impact on the oceans. Events featured complimentary fair trade coffee, tea, and cookies as the Institute seeks to integrate more fair trade products into the school's events. The week featured trivia, an earth day fair, and a vegan tour of whole foods. Over the weekend, students attended a Volunteer Day at the Big Sur Land Trust and a climate summit hosted at the Institute. This 10-day earth week event perpetuated the excitement on campus over the Institute's recognition as a fair trade university earlier in the month and raised students' awareness of further positive impacts they can have on our community and the environment.

Green Mtn. Adventures Opens on Main

By Sophie Slotnick
Contributing Writer

If you did not notice on your last run or walk through town, there is a brand new storefront along Main Street. At the beginning of April, Middlebury Mountaineer, previously located next to Leatherworks, moved to 56 Main Street.

In addition to shifting locations of his shop, owner Steven Atocha decided to alter the name of the business as well. Middlebury Mountaineer was the original name of his store, and Green Mountain Adventures was the name of his guide company. However, Atocha felt that the name Green Mountain Adventures was more inclusive and fitting, since the store does not sell much climbing equipment anymore. Rather, it carries a wide variety of products for outdoor adventuring.

Green Mountain Adventures carries brands seen all over the Middlebury campus, such as Patagonia, Hydroflask and Dansko. There is even a selection of Blundstone boots. However, Atocha also emphasized that he makes a concerted effort to carry brands that may not be found in every store in town, like Howler Brothers, Kari Traa and Simms. Atocha said he is also trying to bring in more running gear.

In addition to retail, Green Mountain Adventures, which has been around for 18 years, guides many outdoor trips. Guides or instructors facilitate either overnight or single day summer programs for kids. The kids on these trips have the opportunity to be exposed to a wide variety of activities, such as rock climbing, fly fishing, caving, kayaking and stand-up paddle boarding. Along with youth programs, there is also a set of guides that lead fly-fishing and kayaking trips for adults.

SOPHIE SLOTNICK

Atocha acknowledged the major advantages of Middlebury as a location for his business.

"We have great access here in Middlebury," he said. "You can be on the water in 5-10 minutes from when you walk out your door, so it's nice if you come up for a weekend, you can learn why people move here or why people go to school here."

56 Main Street is the fourth location the store has occupied since its original location above Storm Café. Atocha admitted he feels as if the store has been "inching towards Main Street" since it opened many years ago. The location is an exciting move for the store as the new heightened visibility of the location will hopefully offset the convenience of online shopping, and generally increase the amount of foot traffic the store receives.

"It is so easy to order online and get two-day shipping right to your door, so it is nice when people walk or run by and see something in the window that catches their attention," Atocha remarked.

The business was founded in 1998, and Atocha, a recreational management major and graduate of UVM, said he initially wanted to guide for NOLS or Outward Bound. However, he then realized he wanted to start a family and did not want to be away six to eight months of the year. He had extensive experience in this type of work from previous jobs in gear shops. When deciding where to open the shop, Atocha said Middlebury seemed like an ideal fit because of the college and lack of big box stores to monopolize business.

When asked about goals for the future, Atocha joked that his main goal was to keep feeding his children. On a more serious note, he said he wants to continue growing the business, keep the camps full and continue to heighten exposure. He aims to increase the foot traffic the store gets, and also wants to ensure the six to eight guides working for Green Mountain Adventures are busy.

SOPHIE SLOTNICK

Green Mountain Adventures sells products that are perfect for the Vermont outdoors.

Atocha also acknowledged the fact that for the first three years of business, all he did was work seven days a week, and he would love the cushion to get outside and spend time with his three young boys. Atocha's family is important to him and he hopes to show his kids why they moved to Middlebury, and have time to explore and play outside with them.

Atocha shared that his favorite part about owning Green Mountain Adventures is "just educating people." He explained that he did not grow up in a household that was active, and his family did not ski or hike, so he relied on friends' families to take him on outdoor trips. Atocha strives to give kids a little taste of the outdoors in a safe and controlled environment. He added that it is great when he has the opportunity to speak to a kid who participated in a trip with Green Mountain Adventures many years ago, and hear about how their trip and experience helped shape them.

Atocha is very passionate about his work and he closed bu saying, "I love what I do and I'll do it as long as I can".

On your next stroll through town on your way to Carol's or the Co-Op, stop into Green Mountain Adventures. The store is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. In addition to purchasing high quality products, customers at the store will also receive warm welcomes from Atocha's in-store puppy.

Vt. Women's Fund Awards Grants to 14 Orgs

By Amelia Pollard
Contributing Writer

This spring, the Vermont Women's Fund, a program of the Vermont Community Foundation based in Middlebury, is awarding $124,000 in grant money to 14 organizations throughout the state. The funds will be used to teach financial literacy to girls from ages 12 to 25 and to help them develop jobs, skills and find mentors. The initiatives included an array of programs designed to launch women into today's competitive workforce.

Vermont's robust history of philanthropy has long supported the empowerment of young women. Whether because of economic hardship, family burdens or distressed relationships, many teenagers and 20-somethings in the state have struggled to obtain financial opportunities.

The Vermont Women's Fund has parceled out grant money to non-profit organizations that aid young women since 1994. Each year, the donor base has strengthened, with private donations and public attention rising.

"We're all about economic self-sufficiency," said Meg Smith, director of the Vermont Women's Fund.

The organizations to receive the grants all have the primary goal of helping young women who may not find support in their family to better their lives in the future. Since its founding, the Fund has awarded more than $2 million to programs that align with the organization's mission.

Some of this year's recipients encompass career development and exposure to various fields and industries. For example, Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity received $10,000 in order to mobilize a team of young women interested in the construction field. This group of women will have the opportunity to build a home for a local, low-income family, giving them the skills for a potential future career. Another program, MedQuest, received funding to immerse high school students in healthcare careers, fostering connections in the field.

Through a reactionary tactic, other organizations were chosen for their rehabilitation approach to economic and personal hardship girls face. Destined for Something Big, an initiative through the John Graham Shelter, helps women reach independent stability through career field trips, workshops and peer group meetings.

VERMONT WOMEN'S FUND WEBSITE

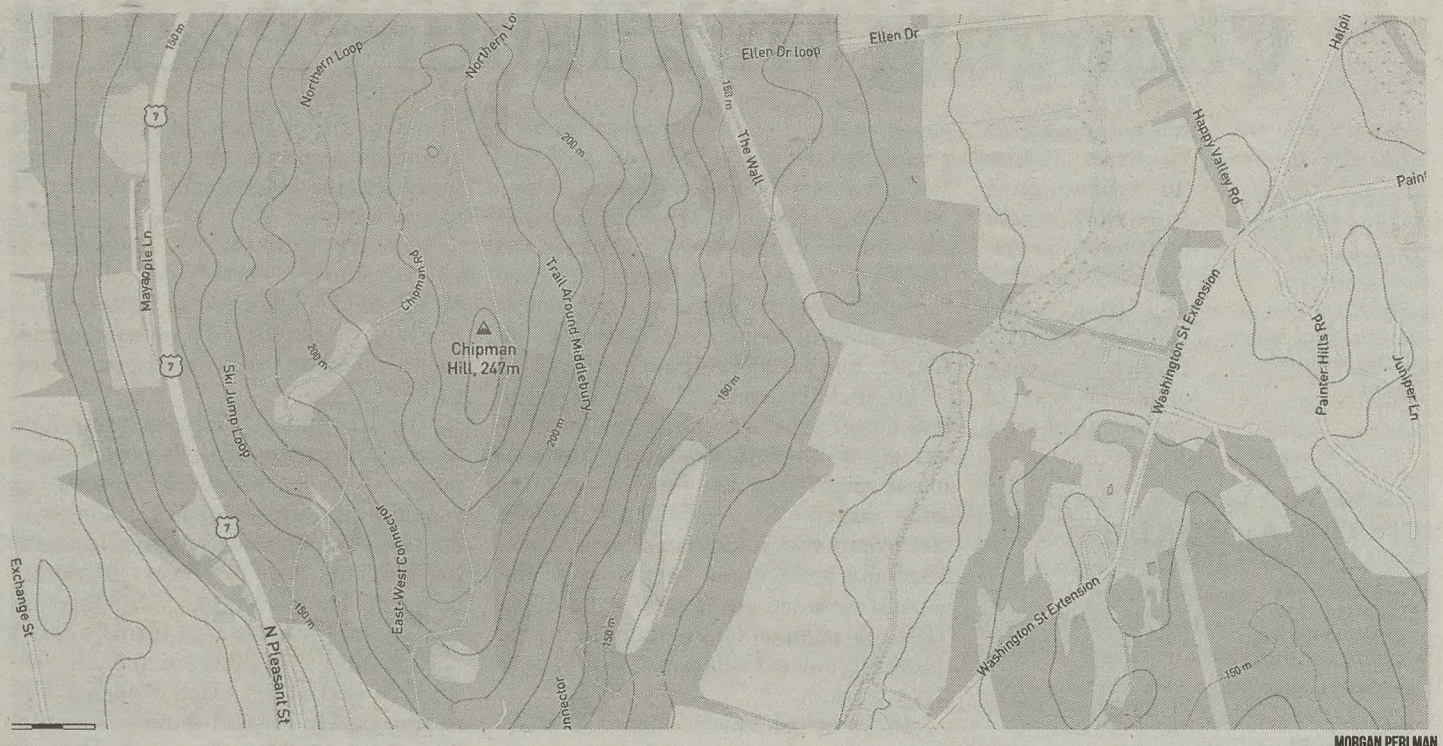
The Vermont Women's Fund has been providing grants to young women since 1994.

Vermont Women's Fund has recently taken on funding for Change the Story, an initiative to make systemic change within the state to strengthen opportunities and equality for women. The mission is backed by two other organizations, the Vermont Commission for Women and Vermont Works for Women, in a collaborative effort.

The substantial aid doled out this year by the Fund and its involvement with Change the Story illustrates the group's determination to make a difference in the lives of young women. In the coming years, the Fund hopes to tackle some of the impediments to female success in the state.

"It goes deeper than programs; we're really trying to look at some of the causes," Smith said, referring to the lack of opportunity for women. "We're trying to address, statewide, how women should be getting equal pay and taking on issues of family

Fortnightly Feature: Chipman Hill



MORGAN PERLMAN

By Morgan Perlman
Staff Writer

For an accessible, quick and nearby adventure in celebration of Vermont's warmer May weather, Chipman Hill is a special place. Just on the outskirts of the northern part of town, Chipman Hill may just be the most prominent geographic feature of Middlebury. Rising 360 feet above the town and holding the spire of a cell tower on top, many recognize this little mountain as they see it walking by Ross or lounging in the blue chairs on the eastern side of Davis Library.

Others may know Chipman for the way it blocks the view from the top of Mount Abraham, where nearly the entire Champlain Valley can be seen on a clear day except for Middlebury, which sits under Chipman's shadow. The hill itself has some unique trails and recreation opportunities that make this defining feature of Middlebury even more interesting to observe and wonder about.

As it turns out, Chipman Hill has a unique history as a recreation area. Back in the 1940s and 50s the western side (or front side) that abuts Route 7 was home to Middlebury College's ski area. That's right, before we had the Snowbowl, we had Chipman Hill. It featured a meager 360 feet of vertical drop and included a ski jumping facility. Today, Chipman Hill boasts a network of trails, which are all connected to the TAM (Trail Around Middlebury) and are well suited for a variety of outdoor activities, all within walking distance of the college and town.

With a large strand of older growth white pines and a beautiful mix of hardwood forests, this little land trust preserve on the outskirts of town is perfect for a local nature walk and a meditative escape from campus life. If you are a runner, the steep hill climb offers an excellent and grueling training route. For mountain bikers, the network of trails — including little side jumps and obstacles on the backside — is an enticing destination for a quick, thrilling ride. With its steep pitch, even a short downhill ski in the winter is not out of the question.

Accessing Chipman Hill is simple from three different Middlebury streets. On the front side, an old, degrading road rises up to the top from a gate at the end of Hill Street before the intersection of Route 7. At the end of the steepest ascent on this trail is a clearing surrounded by towering white pines. And there is a conveniently placed picnic table and bench with excellent views of the town and the college.

The other access point is at the end of Springside Street, essentially forming a loop from Hill Street. This degrading road, now-turned-trail is likely the remnants of the old ski area. The third access point is via the TAM trail, which goes up the backside of Chipman Hill and can be, of course, accessed through the TAM.

The closest TAM trailhead is just off Washington Street, where there is a kiosk in an open field across from the intersection of Peterson Terrace Road. From there, the trail follows the mowed contours of a farmer's field and into a hardwood forest on Chipman's backside. This trail eventually intersects the old road at the top that connects to the trailheads on the Hill and Springside streets. Chipman Hill offers many options for a quick and nearby escape from campus. For further information, https://www.trailfinder.info has a good map with detailed mileage information about the trails.

THE CAMPUS WELCOMES
ITS 2017-18 LEADERSHIP

ETHAN BRADY '18
Editor-in-Chief

WILL DIGRAVIO '19
Managing Editor

"We know they will be great," said Ellie Reinhardt '17, editor-in-chief, and Christian Jambora '17.5, managing editor. "And we can't wait to see where they bring the newspaper!"

OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

Changing Middlebury Pack Behavior

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus.

Last week we published an op-ed by Esme Valette '16 illuminating "predatory pack behavior" on campus. She pointed to a "Hunters and Hunted Party" thrown by a group of senior boys in the spring of 2014 as an example of the perpetuation of a social culture on our campus that fosters predatory behavior. Similar behavior at other schools has recently received nationwide attention, such as when the Harvard men's soccer team released "scouting reports" of the women's soccer team, making sexual suggestions about players and rating their appearances.

Middlebury students who have not had direct experience with the negative effects of such a predatory environment might view the issue as existing only outside the Middlebury bubble. Yet events like It Happens Here, where students read aloud testimony about sexual violence on campus, remind us that our campus is not immune to the power imbalances implicit in our country's culture.

In her op-ed, Valette shared an email written by a group of senior men inviting her to the "Hunters and Hunted" party. Lines include asking women attending to "leave their attitudes ... and firm feminist ideals" at home, as well as explicit instructions that the women were to be the hunted while the men did the hunting. This gendered power dynamic is most obvious when a bunch of drunk students cram into crowded suites in search of a hookup, the love of their lives or just some great dancing. But it is also replicated in other aspects of campus life: the ways students talk about hooking up, the jokes students make and the judgements students pass on each other.

Valette's example of Middlebury's party culture is three years old — has Middlebury since become better at addressing this gendered power imbalance so prevalent in our campus party culture?

The Green Dot Violence Prevention Strategy program against power-based personal violence, which focuses on sexual and dating violence among students, has made some progress in teaching students how to combat predatory behavior. Their trainings, often targeted at athletes — members of teams where a pack mentality is inherent and can easily turn predatory, teach students how to proactively prevent dangerous situations. Many of the tools of Green Dot are simple and designed to have low social costs. One way a bystander can reduce the likelihood of violence is to check-in with someone who looks uncomfortable or too drunk to consent to a hookup, for example.

One challenge of the Green Dot trainings, however, as well as events like It Happens Here, is that attendees are likely to be those who already are aware of the sexism and predation present in the current social life on campus. Such trainings and events will be much more powerful if they can reach students who have been unaware or unthinking in their participation in this harmful culture. We highly recommend students attend a Green Dot training and the It Happens Here event — both groups also have Middlebury websites with informational material or stories you could read today.

The College's faculty, coaches and administrative leaders can work on creating more systematic exposure to these issues, as they did by making basic Green Dot training mandatory for first-years during orientation two years ago. But the "adults" on campus do not have the power to change the norms of Middlebury's social scene. Student leaders, especially upperclassmen and especially sports team captains and club leaders, must take that initiative. Some sports teams have organized team Green Dot trainings or have meetings at the beginning of the year about how they can create a healthy social environment within the team. If upperclassmen rejected the predatory norms assumed in party spaces on campus, it would set a powerful precedent for subsequent generations of Middkids. Let's use the power of the pack to set a new, better standard for social interaction on campus.

The Middlebury Campus

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WHITE NORMATIVITY IS CLASSED

NOTES FROM THE DESK

***Edward O'Brien '17** writes about the intersections of poverty and race.*

Racial and economic oppressions recently have been thrown at each other in Trump era politics as if one contradicts the other. In part, the white poor have started claiming oppression as their own, claiming that policies like affirmative action or individual prejudices amount to "reverse racism" (i.e. racism against white people). It is pretty common knowledge among college-educated liberals that "reverse racism" cannot happen; in other words systemic racism is different from an individual act of bigotry. Systemic racism refers to a system that advantages certain races over others and in which people of certain races are more likely to hold institutional power. Bigotry is the individual prejudice one has for a group of people.

There is truth, however, to the increasing claims of oppression of the white poor — not for their race but in other ways. Interestingly, over the past two decades, the white poor are the only demographic in the United States whose health outcomes have declined — the white poor are now living shorter, less healthy lives than they were at the turn of the century. They are also a demographic for whom wages have either stagnated or dropped. In many ways, things are not going well for the white poor, yet many liberals will remind them that they still hold "white privilege." In some ways, this is true. In others, it is not. It depends on what you mean by the vague, and all-encompassing phrase.

The white poor have not suffered slavery, racial segregation, racial profiling, cultural exploitation or appropriation. At the same time, however, they are in many ways not a part of white normativity. Take, for example, the derogatory term "white trash." The term itself implies something along the lines of white, but not as good, white but less than white — white but poor.

Just like all other relations to power, whiteness is inseparable from other identities white people hold, be that gender, sexuality, or class. This country is run by white people, with their access to education, their political connections, their historical power in this country, their wealth. But many of these advantages afforded to white people are classed advantages. It is a very different position in society to be white and born to two professional parents in a wealthy town just outside of Boston than it is to be white in rural Missouri and struggling to put food on the table or steadily losing jobs to a globalized market.

Not all white people are equally powerful or fit into an imagined white middle-class mold. Returning to the example of "white trash," it is worth exploring who is considered white trash among the white poor. What makes the distinction between being "white trash" or finding oneself in "genteel poverty"? Generally, the answer is one's adherence (or lack thereof) to normative white middle-class values, mannerisms, and definitions of respectability. Many of the white poor are othered by white normativity — because they do not succumb to white respectability politics or because they are too poor to have access to the systems that advantage white people.

We must apply intersectional perspectives in a way that allows for nuances even among the generally powerful group in this country. To say that the white poor have white privilege is true; it also dismisses the fact that many of the systems that advantage people are simultaneously racial and contingent on class. It would be more accurate, then, to say that the white poor have some white privilege. The white poor are advantaged by the purely racial mechanisms of oppression, but not the the ones tied up in wealth.

On the "Staff Appreciation Day" Spread

READER OP-ED

***Hye-Jin Kim '17** offers a critique of a Features spread.*

I would've liked to know more about staff members' personal interests, hobbies and opinions about the College. Questions that were more critical of the way students treat staff would've been more valuable (and interesting) to read, than simply a list of "memorable interactions." Instead of "What does your job entail?" why not "How does your job keep the college running?" or "What's the most important part of your daily routine?" And let's be frank, "What's the best/worst part of your job?" is just a lazy question.

The spread only asked questions about their work and nothing about their identity outside the Middlebury bubble. It did a poor job of humanizing the staff — if anything, it reinforced the stereotype that staff members exist solely to serve students on this campus. What about their involvement in the community? What are they passionate about? What do they like to do for fun?

Journalism is in the business of asking good questions. As the semester winds down, I hope the editorial board keeps this in mind for future stories, even in its final issues.

Support Middlebury Students' Right to Protest

LETTER TO PRESIDENT PATTON

***499 academics, from the Middlebury community and beyond** sign on to a letter by professors from other colleges opposing the discipline of student protesters.*

Dear Dr. Patton:

We write to protest the Middlebury administration's punitive response to students involved in the events surrounding the Charles Murray lecture on March 2, 2017. Middlebury students have reported being placed on probation and having disciplinary letters added to their files for protesting both the lecture and also the fact that the college gave its imprimatur to the event by having faculty and administration introduce and preside over it.

Additionally, we are concerned that the administration has taken or plans to take other more serious disciplinary actions. As academics who value maintaining college campuses as spaces that encourage critical thinking and that serve as welcoming and democratic spaces for all, we write in support of these students. We exhort you to proceed with a keen sense of their well-being, and their right to participate in protests for social justice, in a long tradition that includes Gandhi, Martin Luther King and Senator Bernie Sanders.

Charles Murray is a widely discredited scholar who masks racist ideas under a veneer of respectability. The Southern Poverty Law Center describes Murray as a "white nationalist" who is fond of "using racist pseudoscience and misleading statistics to argue that social inequality is caused by the genetic inferiority of the black and Latino communities, women and the poor." A well-known provocateur, he has a long history of coming to college campuses to create turmoil and foment hatred. Because his dangerous ideas are so well known, 450 Middlebury alumni signed an open letter, published in the student paper the day prior to his lecture, protesting the event.

Alumni described his invitation to campus not as "an educational opportunity, but a threat." We join these alumni in their dismay. Indeed, our own is compounded by the fact that the administration disregarded alumni, some faculty members', and students' clear message that Murray's appearance was not an occasion for dialogue and free speech, but for fanning the flames of racism during a tense time in the United States, when hate crimes are on the rise.

We are aware that the protesting students, many of whom are now being disciplined by the college, possibly acted in contravention of college rules. We are also aware of the different reports of what happened after the lecture as Murray and Middlebury faculty member Allison Stanger were departing the hall. Competing versions of what transpired at the protests exist--whether any violence that might have occurred was accidental or deliberate; whether it was initiated by students, security, or other parties.

This uncertainty does not negate basic facts—students have a right to reasonable protest; and protest by its very nature is a challenge to an authority that refuses to listen.

We believe the administration must take responsibility for what ensued during

Murray's visit, which was sorely mishandled. In his thoughtful public apology to colleagues and the Middlebury community, especially people of color, Prof. Bert Johnson, the Chair of the Political Science Department, recognized mistakes in his decision-making and expressed regret that his agreement to co-sponsor the Murray lecture "contributed to a feeling of voicelessness that many already experience on this campus." We note that to date the administration has issued no such apology to those at Middlebury adversely affected by Murray's college-sanctioned visit, even as an apology has been tendered to Charles Murray and Allison Stanger.

As Prof. Johnson's words suggest, the responsibility for what happened at Middlebury cannot be placed exclusively or even primarily on the shoulders of students who are now being disciplined. The administration, faculty and other members of the college community who invited, enabled, and formally welcomed so dangerous a figure as Murray in full knowledge of his history bear responsibility, as does the Middlebury administration for then overriding objections leading up to his lecture, and disrespecting students', faculty, and alumni concerns.

Dr. Patton, we ask you to consider this: when Charles Murray was in high school, indeed only a couple of years younger than the Middlebury students being disciplined, and as the Civil Rights Movement was getting underway, he burned a cross, and then claimed not to know the true meaning of his action (NYT). The scholarship he has since produced continues to breed hate and prejudice. Why would Middlebury choose to enable such a man, and the specious "scholarship" and narratives he propagates, rather than nurture the spirit of students who stand against racism?

To punish students and to defend Murray is to degrade the meaning of academic freedom and free speech. Instead, we hope that you might make of this occasion one that can foster critical thinking and reflection in an environment that is safe for all students and members of the Middlebury community, including those who are the most vulnerable. Rather than disciplining students in ways that might prove permanently damaging, we urge you to take this an opportunity for learning, not just for the students but, indeed, for the whole college community.

Respectfully,

1. Cynthia Franklin, University of Hawai'i
2. David Palumbo-Liu, Stanford U
3. David Lloyd, University of California, Riverside
4. Neferti Tadiar, Barnard College, Columbia University
5. Ebony Coletu, Pennsylvania State University
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9. Cheryl Naruse, University of Dayton
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12. Adam Miyashiro, Stockton University
13. Kevin P. Murphy, University of Minnesota
14. Timothy J. Reiss, Professor Emeritus, New York University
15. Darwin Tsen, Penn State
16. Ian Balfour, York University
17. Bill V. Mullen Purdue University
18. Salah D. Hassan, Michigan State University
19. Laura Lyons, University of Hawai'i
20. Dr. Aaron Hostetter, Rutgers University-Camden
21. Aren Aizura, University of Minnesota
22. Yogita Goyal, UCLA
23. Sony Coranez Bolton, Middlebury College
24. Maria Bates, Pierce College
25. Anthony Alessandrini, City University of New York
26. Jacqueline Shea Murphy, UC Riverside, Associate Professor
27. Jesse Knutson University of Hawaii, Mānoa
28. Lisa Kahaleole Hall, Wells College
29. Jih-Fei Cheng, Assistant Professor of Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Scripps College
30. Hassan Melehy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
31. Shanté Paradigm Smalls, PhD, St. John's University
32. Karma R. Chavez, Mexican American and Latina/o Studies, University of Texas at Austin
33. Kevin Black, Boston University
34. Mikaila Mariel Lemonik Arthur, Rhode Island College
35. Cynthia Wu, SUNY at Buffalo
36. Alex Lubin, University of New Mexico
37. Emily Raymundo '10, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Southern California
38. Laila Farah, DePaul University
39. Alvin L.J. Kim, UPenn
40. Naomi Schiler, Brooklyn College, CUNY
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63. Kimberly Drake, Scripps College
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65. Dr. Stephanie Han Hawaii Pacific University
66. Hosam Aboul-Ela, University of Houston
67. S. Shankar, University of Hawai'i
68. Dr. Rashmi Varma, University of Warwick, UK
69. Zach Schwartz-Weinstein, Independent Scholar.
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92. Willa Cowan-Essig, SUNY
93. Barbara Ofosu-Somuah
94. Mazin Qumsiyeh, Professor (previously Yale, now Bethlehem)
95. Nalini Iyer, Seattle University
96. Miranda Joseph, University of Arizona
97. Andrew Paul Gutierrez, Emeritus Professor, UC Berkeley
98. Dr. Hatem Bazian, UC Berkeley
99. John Rieder, University of Hawaii at Manoa
100. Anu Biswas, Middlebury College class of 2016
101. Monisha Das Gupta, University of Hawaii at Manoa
102. Todd Essig, Ph.D., William Alanson White Institute
103. S. Charusheela, University of Washington, Bothell
104. Steven Salaita, American University of Beirut
105. Betty Joseph, Rice University
106. Barbara Foley, Rutgers University-Newark
107. Anushiya Ramaswamy, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
108. Piya Chatterjee, Scripps College
109. Leora Mosman, Student - Saint Mary's College of California
110. Tamara Vatnick, Middlebury College '07
111. Sonora Jha, Seattle University
112. Ketu H Katrak University of California, Irvine
113. Bonnie Zare, University of Wyoming
114. Ioana Luca, NTNU
115. Sarita See, U of California Riverside
116. Dr. Iokepa Casumbal-Salazar, UCLA
117. Richard Cullen Rath, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
118. Jordy Rosenberg University of Massachusetts
119. Yi-Chun Tricia Lin, Southern Connecticut State University
120. P J Thomas , S B College , M G University, Kerala India
121. Heidi Howkins Lockwood, Yale PhD '09, SCSU faculty
122. Lisa King, University of Tennessee
123. Colin Dayan, Vanderbilt University
124. Kate Beutner, U of Hawaii
125. Hayle Meyerhoff, Haverford College
126. Julia Pike, Amherst College
127. Kelley Baumann, Amherst College
128. Bobby Shogren, Amherst College
129. Elizabeth Dunn
130. Esperanza Chairez, Amherst College
131. Bryan Doniger, Amherst College
132. Phoebe Chatfield, Yale University
133. Rachel Cohen, Amherst College
134. Peggy K. Takahashi, University of San Francisco
135. Estelle Lopez, Southern Connecticut State University
136. Charlotte Rosen, Northwestern University
137. Anthony Granite, NMSU
138. Molly Stuart, San Francisco State University
139. Kevin Walters
140. Michael Hisry, Borough of Manhattan Community College
141. Martin Man, Yale University
142. Emma Broder, Wesleyan University
143. Ann Heppermann, Sarah Lawrence College
144. Andrew Drinkwater, Amherst College
145. Karla Lorena Huaman Ruiz, St. Olaf College.
146. Margot Friedman, Skidmore College
147. Sarah Kate Murphy, Appalachian State University
148. Candace Fujikane, U of Hawai'i
149. Samuel Dewees, Wesleyan University
150. Federico Sor, NYU Shanghai
151. MJ Engel, Columbia University
152. Graham Cairns, Columbia University
153. Lisa Henderson, University of Massachusetts Amherst
154. Kevin Gannon, Grand View University
155. Monica Barron, Truman State U
156. Christine Harker, Truman State U
157. Hannah Goodwin, UC Santa Barbara
158. Alice Jardine, Harvard U
159. Kenna Neitch, Texas Tech University
160. Fawzia Afzal-Khan, Montclair State University
161. Luis A. Ledesma, Contra Costa College
162. Jackie Weinstock, University of Vermont
163. Lauren Berlant, University of Chicago
164. Suzanna Walters, Northeastern University
165. Nancy Daley-Moore, Truman State University
166. Kanika Batra, Texas Tech University
167. McKenzie Campbell, Eastern Michigan University
168. Tina Escaja, University of Vermont
169. Dan DiPiero, Ohio State University
170. Carrie Baker, Smith College
171. Jane Chin Davidson, California State U of San Bernardino
172. Israel Cantu Silva, Professor, Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon, Mexico
173. Kavita Daiya, George Washington University
174. Serena Parekh, Northeastern University
175. Maree ReMalia, Middlebury College
176. Lindsay London, RN, UVM
177. Lauren Stuart Muller, City College of San Francisco (Middlebury MA 87)

For an additional 322 names — which, regretfully, we could not fit in print — please see middleburycampus.com.

An Invitation to Inquiry

READER OP-ED

Jonathan Miller-Lane, *Associate Professor of Education Studies and Faculty Head of Wonnacott Commons writes in about the faculty's duty to reflect following the Murray protests.*

The context in which we do our work in higher education has changed dramatically in recent decades and these changes have an impact on our specific experience at Middlebury. Institutions such as Georgetown, Brown, Harvard, Princeton and others have publicly shared how they historically and systematically excluded particular bodies and minds from participating in the free exchange of ideas on their campuses. This process has been part of a larger recognition that the 19th century idea that higher education can exist in a value-free void in which we are objective scientists investigating our particular fields is deeply flawed. There is no void within which one can undertake objective inquiry or in which 'free speech' occurs. As President Drew Gilpin Faust of Harvard has argued, "there have to be certain commitments within which knowledge is pursued and transmitted and that we have to, as institutions, commit ourselves to undertaking our work and forming young people within sets of commitments to justice, to truth, to values that matter to us as a society."

I would argue that this is precisely the case that many students have been trying to make for many years and the events of March 2017 are the most recent efforts to wake us up. Many of you have seen, "Abroad at Home," a video by Tim Garcia, Middlebury class of 2014, in which students from traditionally underrepresented groups speak about what it is like to be a student at Middlebury. During the 2015-16 academic year, protests erupted at Middlebury and on campuses across the country, not because of a single incident or racial epithet; but because students were fed up with duplicitous campus cultures that tout diversity while tolerating pervasive racist and sexist practices, symbols and policies. We held three town forums last year, two in Dana and one in Mead Chapel. They were all packed and students wanted to talk, share, and listen to each other. And, still, our response is to imagine how to create more support groups for those of us who find the Whiteness of Middlebury exhausting and intolerable and to lament that if only everyone were more rational we could solve the 'problem' some are having.

Yet, as any of us who were at last week's Spring Symposium witnessed, there is no absence of intellectual or rational capacity on the part of Middlebury students. What I hear many students asking the faculty and administration to do is to direct our cherished ability for critical inquiry towards our own practices and our own assumptions:

1. Who is Middlebury assumed to be for and who is considered a supporting cast who needs support?
2. What are the ontological and epistemological assumptions that I embody and that underlie my teaching practices as a professor?
3. How might I interrogate, in class, the cultural/political context in which I choose my objective scientific questions, how those questions are funded, and how they are evaluated during professional reviews? How might such an inquiry open up previously ignored lines of investigation for my students?
4. Whose perspectives and lived experiences are validated in my professional understanding of what matters, and whose are ignored?

"What I hear many students asking the faculty and administration to do is to direct our cherished ability for critical inquire towards our own practices and our own assumptions."

This work will require faculty to enter into deeply uncomfortable terrain, but the work is essential for the education of our students—those from historically overrepresented groups as much as, if not more so, than for students from historically underrepresented groups. After all, as Ta Nahesi Coates argued two years ago in his address in Mead Chapel, it is the "Dreamers" who have some serious work to do.

At this moment and in the months ahead, we have a unique opportunity as an unrealized, potential community of faculty, staff and students to engage in a fearless interrogation of who we are and to what degree our website rhetoric mocks the reality of what it is like for many of us to live and learn on this campus. Our responsibility to undertake this work will be relentlessly disruptive and worth the confusion in our Outlook Calendars that will necessarily follow.

LEARNING TO ENGAGE THE WORLD

READER OP-ED

Carly Thomsen, *Assistant Professor of Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies, writes in about the importance of social critique.*

A couple of weeks prior to Charles Murray's much-discussed visit to Middlebury, I was asked to write a piece on student activism for a spread that the *Campus* had intended to put together on the topic. In the wake of Charles Murray's visit, this plan — like many of our plans for the semester — went out the window. As I participated in hours upon hours of conversations last week about free speech, inclusivity and the "Phase 2" students' ongoing disciplinary proceedings — a full two months after Murray's visit — I couldn't help but think that the broad conversations about campus-based activism that the *Campus* had intended to spark are more relevant now than ever.

Originally, I had planned to write about how I utilize engaged research as a principle part of my pedagogy, and the relationship of engaged research to activism. Students in my Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies courses often ask: "What do we do with this theory? How do we talk about these complicated academic ideas with people who aren't in this class?" My students find ways to answer these questions through engaged research and related creative projects. Last semester, students in my Politics of Reproduction and Queer Critique courses produced zines, podcasts and art exhibits, organized a 5k run/walk and created ongoing journalistic columns, alongside writing developed analytical papers. Finding ways to discuss the academic ideas from our classes in alternative formats and with people beyond our classrooms demands a level of analytical sophistication that goes beyond what is required for even the most complex in-class discussions.

"Largely missing from the discussion of the Murray event are the values and benefits associates with students' engagement in the public sphere."

I thought I would write about these everyday forms of student activism, about the pedagogical possibilities of engaged research projects, about how students already utilize academic theory in their activism and how they might do so otherwise.

"In addition to protesting, students challenged the racist, classist, sexist and xenophobic ideologies upon which Murray has built his career by creating and circulating flyers and pamplets."

And then Charles Murray came to campus.

It has since become impossible to imagine reflecting on student activism without centering the discussions and protests spurred by Murray's visit. On the one hand, I resent that my imagination has been constricted by racist, classist and sexist right-wing ideologues. I resent that the narratives that stick to these big ostensibly news-worthy moments function to overwrite ongoing and everyday forms of student activism, those that neither begin nor end with expressing resistance to someone like Charles Murray. On the other hand, as a new member of the Middlebury community, I am hopeful that we might use this moment to advance prior conversations regarding student and scholarly engagement in the public sphere—at Middlebury and beyond.

Doing so will require many things:

Reflecting critically on how we frame "protest." At Middlebury, students' rights to protest have been repeatedly affirmed. Largely missing from the discussion of the Murray event are the values and benefits associated with students' engagement in the public sphere. Let's move beyond discussing protest as a legal right, which positions it as something the institution must allow, and instead approach non-violent protest as a social good.

Recognizing that social critique takes many forms, and that the effectiveness of each is spatially and temporally contingent. In addition to protesting, students challenged the racist, classist, sexist and xenophobic ideologies upon which Murray has built his career by creating and circulating flyers and pamphlets through which they addressed specific points made by Murray as well as the broader cultural ideas that inform Murray's work. These components of the students' protest have been largely ignored. Conservative political commentator Andrew Sullivan, for example, critiqued students not for protesting per se, but for failing to "challenge the data or the arguments of the book." Such alternative facts ignore that students did challenge the arguments of the book and that this was a part of their reasoned protest. (We'll leave aside the demand that one responds with reason to that which is inherently unreasonable.)

Articulating where, when and how the College effectively supports the development of skills and analytics to counter racism, sexism, classism, ableism and homophobia — and also where we fall short, individually and collectively.

For students to learn to engage the world, as Middlebury's mission states, we must not only re-affirm a commitment to protest, we must be willing to support students as they grapple with how to draw effectively from their course material when engaging in the public sphere. Put otherwise, we might discuss how the institution can better support students as they learn to engage the world.

The events surrounding Charles Murray's visit to campus continue to raise questions for our community to address. One of these is about the relationship of protest to other forms of student and scholarly engagement in the public sphere. As we proceed, let's recognize that social engagement is crucial to the life of the university. Let's approach students' engagement in the social sphere as that which can extend the boundaries of our classrooms, as a site for the development of new epistemologies, aspirations, and ways of relating to one another and our world. Let's refuse the simplistic protest vs. respectable resistance and theory vs. activism binaries that make their way into classroom and activist discussions alike. Let's support students as they grapple with how to do the difficult intellectual work of refusing these binaries by utilizing theory in the public sphere. Doing so will allow us to better understand what we mean by "protest," "engagement," "theory" and "the public," in the first place.

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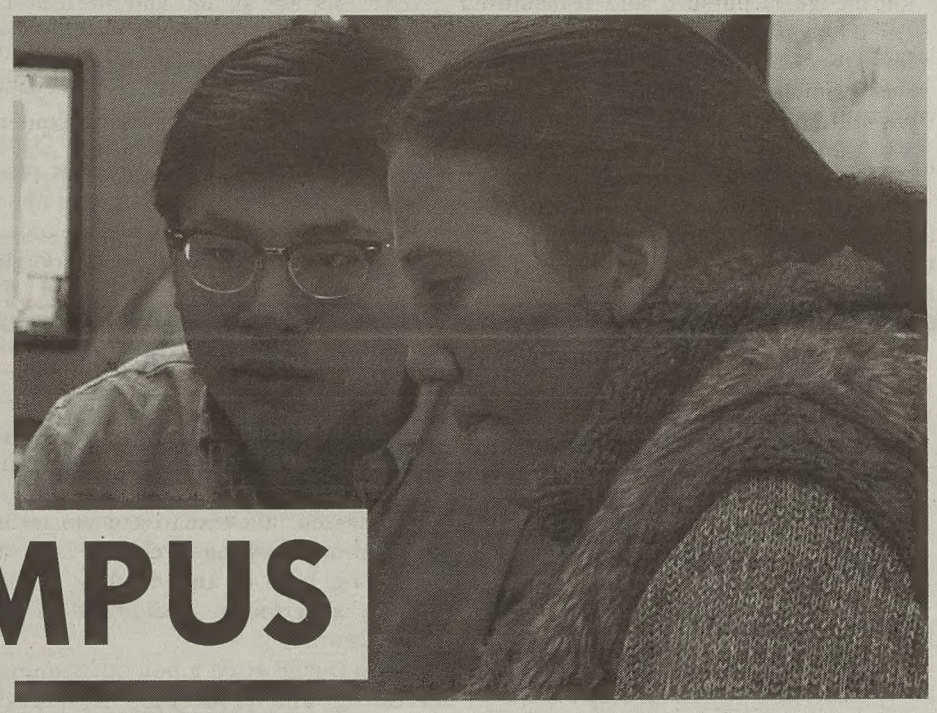

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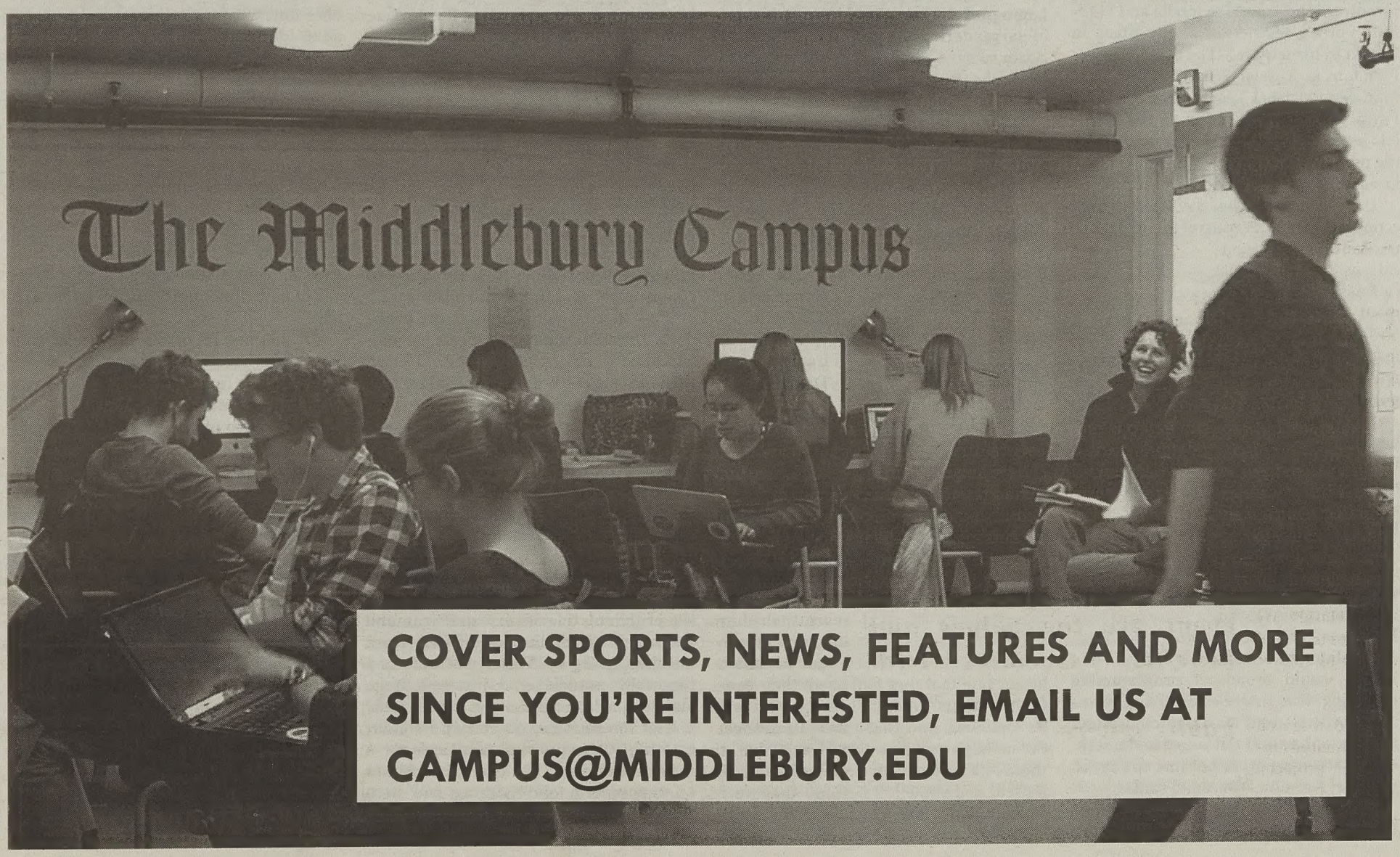

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Rosstaurant Dinner Dazzles With Menu & Music

By Sarah Asch
Features Editor

Ross Commons hosted its first "Rosstaurant," a restaurant style dinner event, on Saturday, April 29, in Atwater Dining Hall. Ross Community Council tri-chairs Zorica Radanovic '19, Trisha Singh '19 and Oriyomi Adeliyi '20 planned the event to replace Viva Ross Vegas, which had been Ross Commons' annual event for the last several years. According to Radanovic, Viva Ross Vegas was declining in popularity.

"As tri-chairs, we wanted to host a large-scale event again, but realized that Viva wasn't getting the traction it once did," she said.

Radanovic said they have been planning the event since the fall. "We started [planning] last semester in November, but at that point everything was very theoretical," she said. "Then as the months passed, we began getting more serious and started contacting student chefs and looking for volunteers to help during the night of the event."

Radanovic also said the tri-chairs were inspired by the success of Dolci, the monthly student-cooked meal hosted in Atwater, as they planned Rosstaurant.

"Having Dolci as a model and having the Dolci leadership be so willing to offer advice and guidance was essential to the tri-chairs who had never organized a large food event before," she said. "The last two months have been heavily involved in working with Atwater dining staff in preparing the event and getting the necessary materials in order."

Students put together the menu for Rosstaurant and incorporated food from many different regions in the world. Abigail Browngoehl '19 helped decide on the dishes for the event.

"The theme of Rosstaurant in its inaugural year is 'A Culinary Tour of the World,'" she said. "The menu is inspired by recipes and cultures from around the world, featuring cuisine from five different countries: Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Taiwan and Turkey. Clark Lewis and myself put together the menu, which was curated from a number of students who were inspired by their own recipes."

Maria Hatjigeorgiou, one of the faculty heads for Ross Commons, found that the different kinds of food helped contribute to an open atmosphere at the event itself.

"The menu our Chairs developed utilized creatively national dishes from five different countries, blending flavors and traditions into a culinary tour of Peace and Friendship," she said. "The food, as well as the map and the information they provided to each table of diners, sparked rich conversations and elicited memories of travel and personal experience. The evening was enhanced by an eclectic music program representing diverse geographies, traditions and styles by Ross artists."

According to Radanovic, the goal of Rosstaurant was to create community around food and music.

"We wanted to bring the greater Middlebury community together over food, live music and conversation," she said. "We wanted to showcase the amazing cooking talent of our peers. We wanted Ross Commons to get involved and to get excited about the Commons system."

Fellow tri-chair Singh agreed. "Our goal was to provide a fun gourmet restaurant environment to a large number of students for a low price, while exposing them to a variety of cultures through food," she said.

Hatjigeorgiou felt the event was very successful. "The event was a testament to what collaboration and synergy can yield in our Commons communities, if our Councils choose to activate the power of self governance supported by their budgets," she said. "Sitting among all the different students from Ross and the broader College community, I felt I had a rare true moment of intense connection. It was a shared experience where all the different layers of rich identity that our students represent converge and become known and appreciated. I believe that moments like this are needed more than ever in our community."

ORIYOMI ADELIYI

Students enjoy a flavorful meal at Rosstaurant, an event planned by the Ross Commons Council Tri-Chairs. The event included a variety of dishes and live music.

Radanovic was also pleased with how Rosstaurant went.

"It went better than I could have imagined," she said. "The turnout was great, the food was wonderful, the music was amazing and it was just a bunch of fun. I am so thankful to all of the members in the community who attended and who wanted to help, so thank you!"

Radanovic also said that it is unclear if Rosstaurant will happen next year, but she hopes this event laid the groundwork for the future. "The tri-chairs operate on a yearly basis, so it will be completely under the discretion of the tri-chairs in the upcoming years, she said. "However, I do hope that because of the success it had this year, the tri-chairs in the future will want to pursue Rosstaurant again, especially because now there is a framework for future organizers to follow."

Russian Journalist Warns Against Complacency

By Lucy Grindon
Contributing Writer

Last Wednesday, Russian television journalist Tikhon Dzyadko warned the Middlebury community about the similarities between Donald Trump's behavior toward the American media and Vladimir Putin's restriction of the press in Russia in his lecture, "The State of Press Freedom in Russia: What Trump Could (and Should Not) Learn from Vladimir Putin." He drew attention to the parallels between the Kremlin's restriction of the press and Trump's actions in his first hundred days as president.

Dzyadko argued that the Kremlin uses economic means to control the few independent news organizations that still exist in Russia. The government defames news outlets so that they lose their audiences and can no longer support themselves.

"There's no need to harass or kill journalists when you can put pressure on the media in economic ways," Dzyadko said.

Dzyadko himself used to work for Russia's only independent news station, Dozhd. Between April 2010 and January 2015, Dozhd would broadcast programming including live interviews with government officials and coverage of protests to large online and television audiences.

"At some point, it became too much for [the] Kremlin," Dzyadko said.

After the invasion of the Ukraine (Dzyadko mentioned that the Russian media are not allowed to use the term "annexation," and must refer to Crimea "becoming part of the country"), the Russian government decided to shut Dozhd down.

When Dozhd aired a poll questioning the Soviet Union's decision to defend Leningrad during World War II instead of surrendering the city to the invading Nazis to save hundreds of thousands of lives, the Russian government accused Dozed of being unpatriotic.

Dzyadko recalled "there was a poll for the audience which they used to say that journalists of Dozhd did not respect what our grandmothers and grandfathers did during the war. They started a campaign saying that people from Dozhd are neo-Nazis."

The government's defamation all but bankrupted Dozhd.

Dzadko said, "At the end, our partners from cable and satellite companies got calls from the Kremlin and they told us that they were offended so much by our poll that they had to cut their contracts with us, and that's how Dozhd lost its audience, and that's how Dozhd lost the main part of its advertisers. Some of them left because our audience had collapsed, and some left because they were worried about doing business with us."

"Your hair is black. If I say it's blonde, that wouldn't be an alternative fact, that would be a lie."

TIKHON DZYADKO
RUSSIAN JOURNALIST

Dozhd still creates content, but according to Dzyadko, no one is seeing it. There are only several independent news organizations left in Russia, and the majority of journalists are employed by the state. Dzyadko argued that journalists are willing to give up writing about sensitive topics, telling the truth of what is happening and investigating the government because they are afraid for their financial security.

"These people, especially young journalists, they are afraid of making people from the government mad," Dzyadko said. "And they have their apartments to rent, they have their kids to feed, they have their plans to go on vacations. So they just compromise. They compromise once, and then again, and again and again, and after they compromise on a little, the next time they are ready to compromise on a thing which is bigger."

Now that Donald Trump is the president, Dzyadko wants American journalists to be wary of tactics that could lead them to make the same mistakes that Russian journalists made in the first term of Putin's presidency.

"During the first months of his presidency, we saw several attempts coming from Donald Trump and coming from his administration to somehow use Putin's manners and his politics in the US," Dzyadko said.

Dzyadko noted two examples of American journalists' responses to Trump. He criticized television executives and anchors for attending an off-the-record meeting at Trump Tower where Trump reportedly scolded and insulted them, and he praised *New York Times* journalists for declining to attend a similar meeting. Trump eventually agreed to meet with staff of the *New York Times* on the record, and nothing bad happened.

"Journalists of *New York Times* showed that if they don't compromise in order to get in the future some information from the sources and in order to not get bad relations with the White House, the world will not collapse, and the government will find a way," Dzyadko said.

"Journalists must work for their audience and not for the government," Dzyadko continued.

Dzyadko also observed that the way Trump is fighting with CNN and other television stations looks exactly like the way Putin fought with a television station which he eventually took under state control in 2001.

Dzyadko added that the Russian government has enacted ridiculously specific anti-terrorism laws that it uses to penalize news organizations, and that Russian courts almost always rule in favor of government officials over journalists.

"If you are reporting on the Islamic State, you have to mention that this organization is forbidden in Russia. If you forget these four words, you can be shut down because of anti-terrorism policy," Dzyadko said.

Finally, Dzyadko cautioned Americans against the type of passivity he sees among the majority of Russians. He believes they are content getting their information from the state media because they like what they are being told. "If you hear every day that everything's fine, you're fine," he reasoned.

Instead of becoming complacent, Dzyadko insisted that the people of the United States must reject so-called alternative facts. "Your hair is black," he said to a student attending the lecture. "If I say it's blonde, that wouldn't be an alternative fact, that would be a lie."

Time to Stop Accepting Atwater Norms

By Sex Panther

CW: sexual harassment

Last week, the Campus published an op-ed by alumna Esme Valette '16 about "predatory pack behavior" on campus — male students dominating the Middlebury party scene in a culture of men "hunting" women. Thank you, Esme, for talking about this facet of campus culture.

The issue with pack mentality is that the group social norms override individuals' initiative and decision-making. We get lazy and start relying on societally established rules of interaction and conduct to tell us what is a good or a bad decision. This leads to the tacit acceptance of rape culture on campus — in the way we talk about hooking up when sober and in the way we interact when we're drunk. This is what leads so many to accept that we can put our hands on someone's waist and start dancing with them without consent, for example. We see it as "just the way it works" in Atwater, or a function of the drunkenness, the cramped spaces, and our own horniness. Y'all, horniness or drunkenness is never an excuse for not getting consent for physical contact. Male students can go a long way to apply positive peer pressure on each other to stop this predatory mentality.

On the flip side, women can and do access a similar kind of pack mentality to combat the effects of this male-dominated, rape-culture-tinged party scene.

This less acknowledged female pack behavior takes the form of a quick check-in as to whether a friend is okay with receiving attention from a guy, running dancefloor interference if a friend is receiving unwanted attention or texting the friends you came with when you leave a party, especially if it's with a guy. This sister-pack attitude is even more often fostered among members of a sports team, with upperclassmen and especially captains checking in with younger players to make sure they're comfortable with the crowded situation. Some teams also talk about including other women in this party safety network, too — meaning they'll reach out to any woman who seems uncomfortable or alone.

"To change this reality, it would take all of us. A concerted effort among all female athletes to shut down these commonly accepted forms of sexual harassment and assault."

Women looking out for women is amazing, but this sisterhood dynamic a deep reservoir of power that has yet to be fully tapped into. Upperclassmen women: let's step it up.

My first year at Midd, I was dancing with teammates in an Atwater suite when a guy came up behind me and put his hands on my waist. I brushed his hands off, but he put them right back on and tried to dance with me. So I brushed them off again, turned around and said, "Sorry, I don't want to dance with you." He reached for my waist yet again and said, "Aw, come on." He swore at me when I didn't swoon into his arms and ran off as I glared after him. I was shaken, but proud that I had stood my ground, especially after a senior told me, "Good for you. What a creep." But what if, in the moment that a guy put his hands on me without my permission, a senior on the team had told him, "Hey, she didn't say you could do that."

But the reason no senior did that is that speaking up would have had a social cost. If no one else reacts to groping on the dance floor by pointing out that it's essentially sexual assault, then the person who does point it out sounds dramatic, or like an outsider who can be ignored. To change this reality, it would take all of us. A concerted effort among all female athletes to shut down these commonly accepted forms of sexual harassment and assault.

If first years started their party experience at Midd with the understanding that it wasn't acceptable to touch people without permission and that it was socially acceptable for women to stand up for each other in these moments, in four fast years, they could have completely transformed Midd's party culture. So, to next year's upperclassmen women — especially up and coming team captains — let's harness our power, as the ~alphas~ of our packs of teammates, friend groups and student orgs, to set an agenda against the casual acceptance of a sexist party culture.

Xoxo, Sex Panther

Dining Services Staff Discuss Upcoming Changes

By Liz Stasior
Contibuting Writer

Starting in the fall of 2017, a swipe system in Proctor, Ross, and Atwater will track when and where Middlebury students eat. This system will provide accurate counts for dining services in terms of preparing food as well as reducing waste. The system will also prevent guests not on the meal plan from eating without paying in the dining halls, which will save the College money. A portion of the money saved will go back to the students, and each student will receive $50 on their Middcard to spend at Middlebury dining retail locations each semester.

The College will continue to offer one, unlimited meal plan in the fall of 2017, though that might change in the spring or fall of 2018, depending on the verdict of the SGA appointed student Dining Committee. Multiple meal plans would give students the option of using their official dining plans to frequent other dining, retail locations like The Grille, 51 Main, or Rehearsals Café. Regardless of any new meal plans offered, though, Middlebury will continue to have one comprehensive fee for every student on a plan, according to Dan Detora, Executive Director of Food Services Operations at Middlebury.

Whether students choose the unlimited plan in the dining halls or another plan that includes retail options, they would pay the same fee. This would ensure students never feel forced to choose a dining plan for financial reasons. Students have expressed their desire not to limit access to Middlebury dining based on cost. "I value the fact that the current dining meal plan system puts everyone on an equal playing field," Deborah Leedy '18 said.

In terms of swipe systems, Middlebury is the only school in the NESCAC currently without one. Also, out of the many dining operations in The National Association of College & University Food Services, Middlebury stands apart. "We're the only ones that don't have someone there to swipe cards or don't require students to swipe cards that I know of," Detora said.

As a result, Middlebury has less access to data for the purpose of running dining services than any other school in the NESCAC – and far less than the majority of those in the country. This data could inform food purchasing, preparation, and waste management, attached to the $3.2 million that Middlebury spends on food annually.

"From a food waste standpoint, it's difficult to determine how many people we're going to feed at a particular time," Detora said. "[Adding a swipe system] will allow us to get accurate counts, accurate production records, really minimize our ordering and our waste to the fullest."

Chris Laframboise, commons chef in Ross Dining Hall, noted how accurate data would help dining hall staff with food preparation. "With that count we will be able to forecast with a great degree of accuracy for future meals," he said. "This will help us control what and how much we prep and how much we cook, and that will help to control waste at the end of the day. We will also be able to look at certain timeframes to see how many students are coming in and when and how much we should be cooking at that time."

Currently, Ross Dining Hall has a laser beam counter on the door to track student dining. "Right now our counter system is very basic," said Brent Simons, Ross Commons' dining room manager. "Whenever a customer goes through it breaks the beam, and we get a number....The system adds a count if a student walks in or out of the entrance to Ross – regardless if it's their first or second or fifth time eating for any given meal. In addition, the system cannot determine at what time a student dined in Ross. Proctor and Atwater dining also have such laser systems."

There's also the problem of non-students eating for free in the dining halls, without a system to determine who's entering at the door. At the moment, dining services offers full access to the dining halls for guests with a $5 price tag attached to breakfast, $7 to lunch, and $9 to dinner for the academic year. "We have a duty to the student body to make sure that people who are eating here are somehow related to the college," Simons said. "We have sports teams that pop in on the weekend and eat for free. All that does is take money away and food away from the students that are here."

During homecoming weekend this past fall, for example, alumni ate an estimated 400 free meals. Under this system, students end up paying for guests to eat without charge, a cost that amounts to thousands of dollars per year in expenses that could otherwise go back into the system and benefit students. With the implementation of the swipe, guests would pay at the door via the new electronic system, according to Keith Piper from Ross Dining. The open invitation to faculty for dining with a student (without personal charge) would remain open.

Both the swipe system and the advent of meal plans are designed to resolve ongoing challenges for dining services, including traffic in the dining halls. Ross dining hall can seat 340 at a time, and Proctor has room for 520 not including Redfield, according to Detora. Usually, for this sort of dining operation, the dining hall should turn over just one time per meal (so Ross would seat 680 students at a given meal and Proctor 1,040 students). However, "Every night we do well over 1,200" in Ross, Detora said. "This is our biggest challenge," Simons said. "With Atwater being closed, I think they did 1,400 people in there last night."

Detora explained, "[The Dining halls] were designed when the commons houses were just getting going. There were supposed to be five dining halls." However, given the expense of three dining halls, the building stopped. "With that, storage is an issue in all three dining halls," Detora continued regarding the location of storage rooms and freezers. "They're downstairs and around the corner" in Atwater Dining and downstairs below the dining hall in both Ross and Proctor. "We have a lot of strains, accidents because of the way we're storing and bringing food from one location to the other." The dishwashing room in Ross is also small relative to the amount of dishes it must clean daily.

In every dining hall, preparation and cooking space is limited. The prep room in Ross, just off the dining hall, is smaller than many classrooms – hence, the cooking stations out in the servery area at Ross. In Proctor, a challenge is the location of cooking facilities under the dining hall. Staff must transport prepared food up to the servery via an elevator.

In the end, the dining hall's long lines, lack of seating and pressure on dining staff, have led up to the consideration of future meal plans. The gist of the idea is to provide alternative spaces for students to dine around campus without spending their own money out of pocket, Detora said. If students could dine at Rehearsals Café, The Grille or 51 Main via their meal plan, these spaces may seem more appealing.

"We're hopefully going to renovate Rehearsals and Wilsons this summer," Detora said. Considerations include a wrap shop with high quality deli meats for Rehearsals Café. Detora also described the possibility of "really fresh bagels from a local bake shop, and an assortment of kinds of cream cheeses" as an alternative breakfast option for students.

During the upcoming school year, the student Dining Committee will vote on the decision of introducing new meal plans as well as the specifics of what those plans would include.

Committee Chair Elisa Gan '20 said, "We define the kind of meal plans that the swiping system could offer. The committee has decided to offer an unlimited-only meal plan with fifty dollars credit for a transition period in the fall of 2017. We are hoping to gauge students' responses and review the meal plan options for the spring." The SGA will also vote on the implementation of new meal plans before any are put in place.

Examples of plans for Middlebury include the unlimited plan, a 14-meal plan, or a 10-meal plan. Each plan, except the unlimited one, would include an amount of money to spend at other Middlebury retail locations, like the Grille and 51 Main. Every meal plan would also include a specific number of guest passes per semester for students to invite family, friends, or alumni into Middlebury dining.

With alterations to the system approaching, dining operations looks to provide the ideal experience for students and staff. "Hopefully we can calm people's fears about the change," Simon said.

Nine Students Awarded F

As seniors finish up their last year at Middlebury, nine students look forward to embarking on Fulbright grants working on research projects and English teaching assistantships across the world.

The full list of Fulbright recipients are: Caroline Agsten '17, Isabella Carey '17, Kyle Dickey '17, Kristina Frye '17, Andrew Holtz '16.5, Michelle Kim '17, Maeve Moynihan '17, Brenna Roets '17 and William Weightman '17. These fellows will be pursuing their projects in countries from Bulgaria to Taiwan.

William Weightman '17 - Research/Study Grant in CHENGU, CHINA

What measures are the Chinese government pursuing to achieve an "innovative economy"? What does China mean by "innovation"?

Driven by these questions that arise following the state-level high-tech development zones across China and the particular success of the project in Chengdu, William Weightman '17 will be pursuing a research project in Chengdu, China to explore how China's policy of comprehensive innovation and reform through technological development during his Fulbright year.

"In order to gain a better understanding of this policy objective, I will conduct interviews with local experts, policymakers and entrepreneurs and explore how this policy is being implemented at the local level in Chengdu," Weightman said.

While Weightman looks forward to work on his research project through the Fulbright program, he also looks forward to returning to China.

"The Fulbright provides me an opportunity to return to China and pursue research that I am really passionate about," he said. "I suppose my decision to apply for the Fulbright mostly stemmed from my experiences living there."

Weightman first studied abroad in China as a high school student and has been fascinated by all that the country has to offer ever since. His studies at Middlebury with the Chinese department and abroad in China during his junior year have further reinforced his interest in China and helped him realize the need to blend academic study with immersion experiences in local communities.

"I recognize that even with one's undivided attention, China will always find a way to perplex and confound," Weightman said. "But this is exactly what makes China so interesting and what propels me to keep going back and dig deeper."

Weightman's interest in China is not limited solely to the academic realm.

"In addition to answering my research question, I hope to really take advantage of everything Chengdu has to offer," he said. "I hope to learn a bit of Sichuan cooking – it's my favorite food in the world. I also hope to learn a bit of the local Sichuanese dialect."

As Weightman looks forward to beginning his Fulbright year, he looks as well to the possibility of publishing the results of his research as a way to share his findings and provide a synthesis of a year's worth of research.

"Through research, Fulbrighters are able to engage directly with communities abroad and build long-standing partnerships through cooperation," Weightman said. "I look forward to collaborating with other students and faculty at my host university and think that through dialogue, we will be able to build a stronger U.S. – China relationship for the future."

Written by Charmaine Lam and Renee Chang, Features editors
Designed by Cordelia Prouvost, Graphics editor

ed Fulbright Fellowships

Kristina Frye '17 - Research/Study Grant in BULGARIA and ROMANIA

Inspired by her time abroad in Moscow, International Politics and Economics major Kristina Frye '17 will divide her Fulbright year between Sofia, Bulgaria and Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Frye, who has been awarded a research/study grant by the Fulbright Foundation, hopes to better understand patterns of migration across Eastern Europe.

"My research proposal is to compare incentives to migrate in the two countries by interviewing university students about their post-graduation plans," Frye said. "Bulgaria and Romania provide an interesting comparative case study because they are both post-socialist countries, joined the EU in 2007, and experience significant migration flows to other countries in the EU."

Frye also credits her major and the classes for piquing her interest in migration and its pertinence to the study of International Relations.

"As an International Politics and Economics major at Middlebury, I have definitely been inspired by discussions about the effects of out-migration on the home country, as well as by my 'Transformation in Eurasia' class, which covered countries transforming from a command economy to a market economy," she said.

Maeve Moynihan '17 - English Teaching Assistant in MADRID, SPAIN

Next academic year, Maeve Moynihan '17 will be living and working in Madrid, Spain, as an English Teaching Assistant (ETA) in a local secondary school. As an ETA, Moynihan will provide English instruction in the Global Classrooms Model UN program, which actively engages students in contemporary world issues in a simulated United Nations setting.

"I hope to provide students with an outlet into English and contemporary politics that feels relevant and important to their everyday lives," Moynihan said. "In such a contentious time politically both in the U.S. and in Europe, I think it's really important for students to have a resource to talk about politics, current issues, cultural markers and any other curiosities they have."

In addition to working as an ETA, Moynihan will be conducting an independent project exploring migration and refugees into Spain.

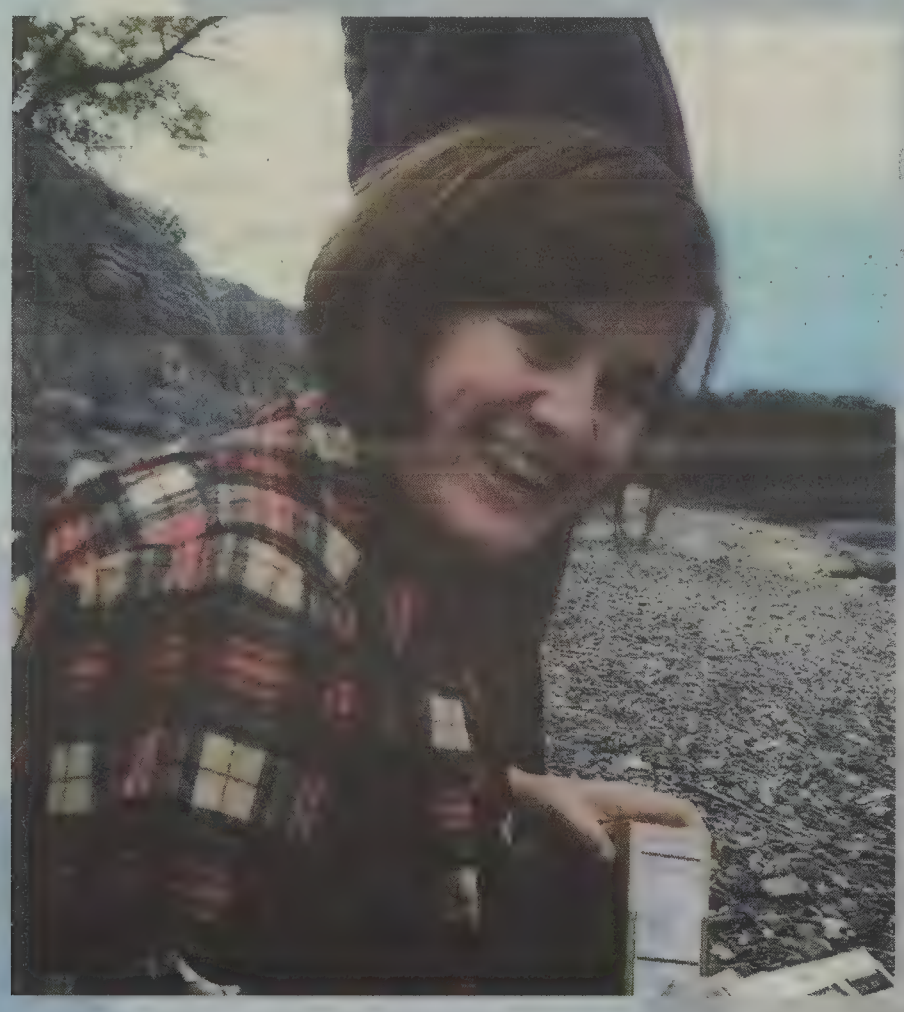
"I'm not sure what shape the project will take yet, but I'm looking forward to engaging with migrant and refugee populations in Madrid," she said.

Moynihan's interest in immigration and refugees has also led her to consider law school and immigration law. She hopes that her year as a Fulbright scholar will fuel this interest and relate both to her independent project and to some of the topics she will be teaching as an ETA.

As Moynihan will be returning to Spain after studying abroad in Madrid in the spring of her junior year, she looks forward as well to spending some more time in the country and "digging deeper into the history and political landscape."

As she looks forward to the upcoming year, Moynihan also encourages all interested Middlebury students to look at fellowship programs following graduation from the College.

"Don't be afraid to apply to the Fulbright or other programs," she said. "it can be intimidating, but it can be a helpful process to really think about what you want to do and where you want to be after Middlebury."



Kyle Dickey '17 - English Teaching Assistant in BRAZIL

As an International and Global Studies major with a self-proclaimed "passion for language-learning and teaching," Kyle Dickey '17 will spend a year as an English Teaching Assistant (ETA) in Brazil. Dickey sees the Fulbright program as an experience that will bring his interests in teaching and language to a confluence.

Having taught immigrants as an instructor in a citizenship class in Boston and spent time abroad in Florianopolis, Brazil, Dickey was looking for a way to combine these experiences post-graduation.

"I spent spring studying in Florianopolis, Brazil, and had such a positive experience that I immediately began looking into ways I could return," he said. "I am an International and Global Studies major with a passion for language-learning and teaching, so the English-teaching grant is an opportunity for me to apply my degree in a real world setting."

During his upcoming year in Brazil, Dickey will be working with university-aged students.

"I still don't know where in Brazil I will be teaching or what level of English, but I do know that I will be teaching university students, which I am really excited about," he said. "A university setting will hopefully allow me to develop friendships right from the start, which definitely makes the adjustment easier."

In spite of the uncertainties that face him, Dickey says that the unknown is something that he has come to appreciate and, perhaps more importantly, embrace.

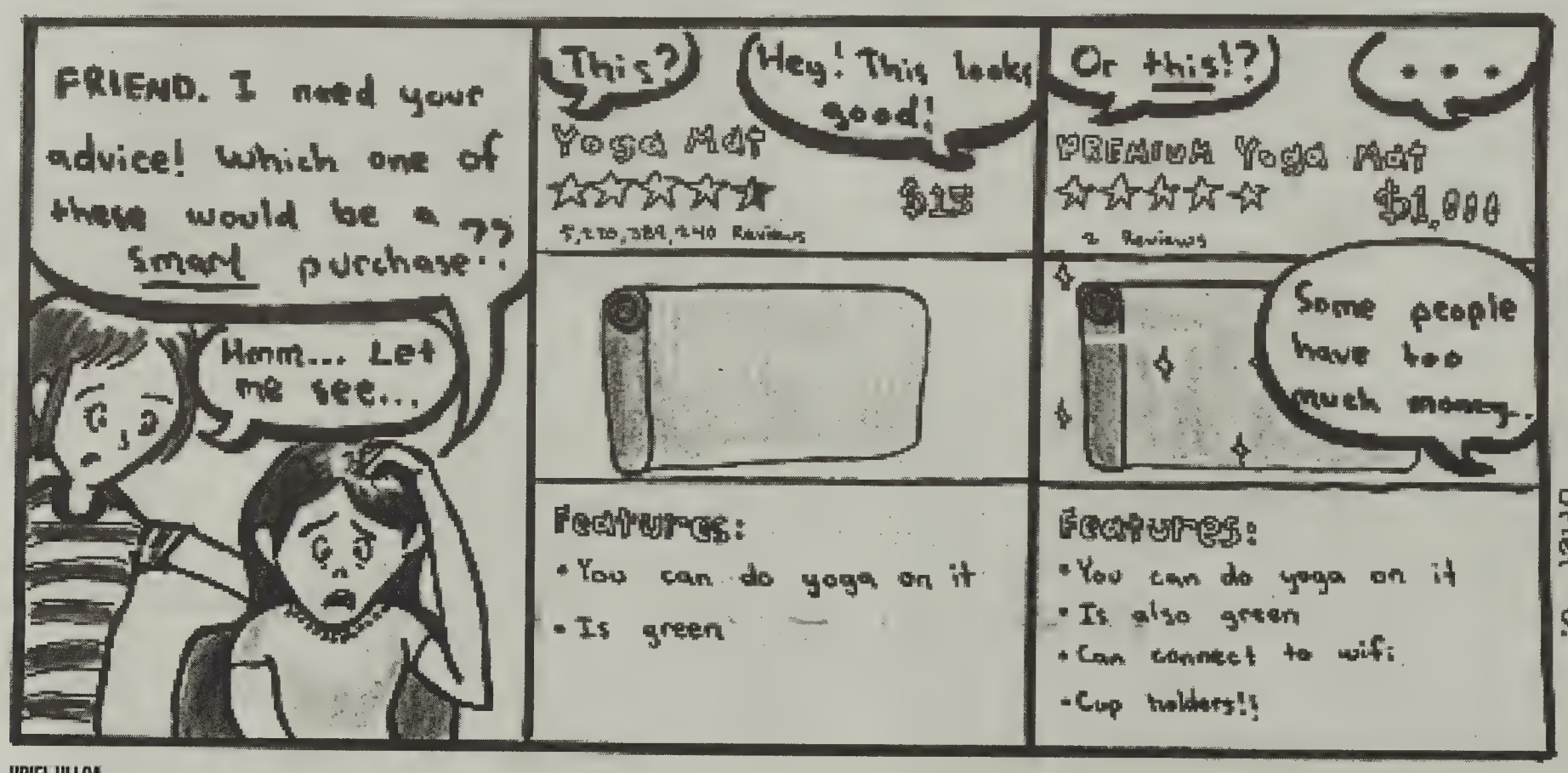
"The Fulbright program brings an exciting level of uncertainty that is important to me," said Dickey. "I still don't know who I will meet, or what I will learn in the process. I also don't have any set plans after my grant period, but I hope that my time in Brazil will be a formative and immersive experience."

CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus

College Cats: Senior Year by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily

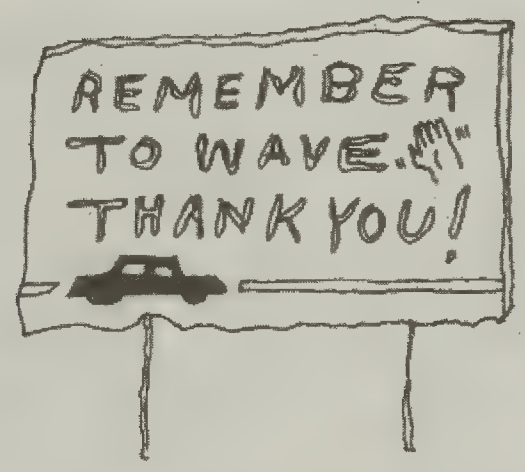
EMILY COX



URIEL ULLOA

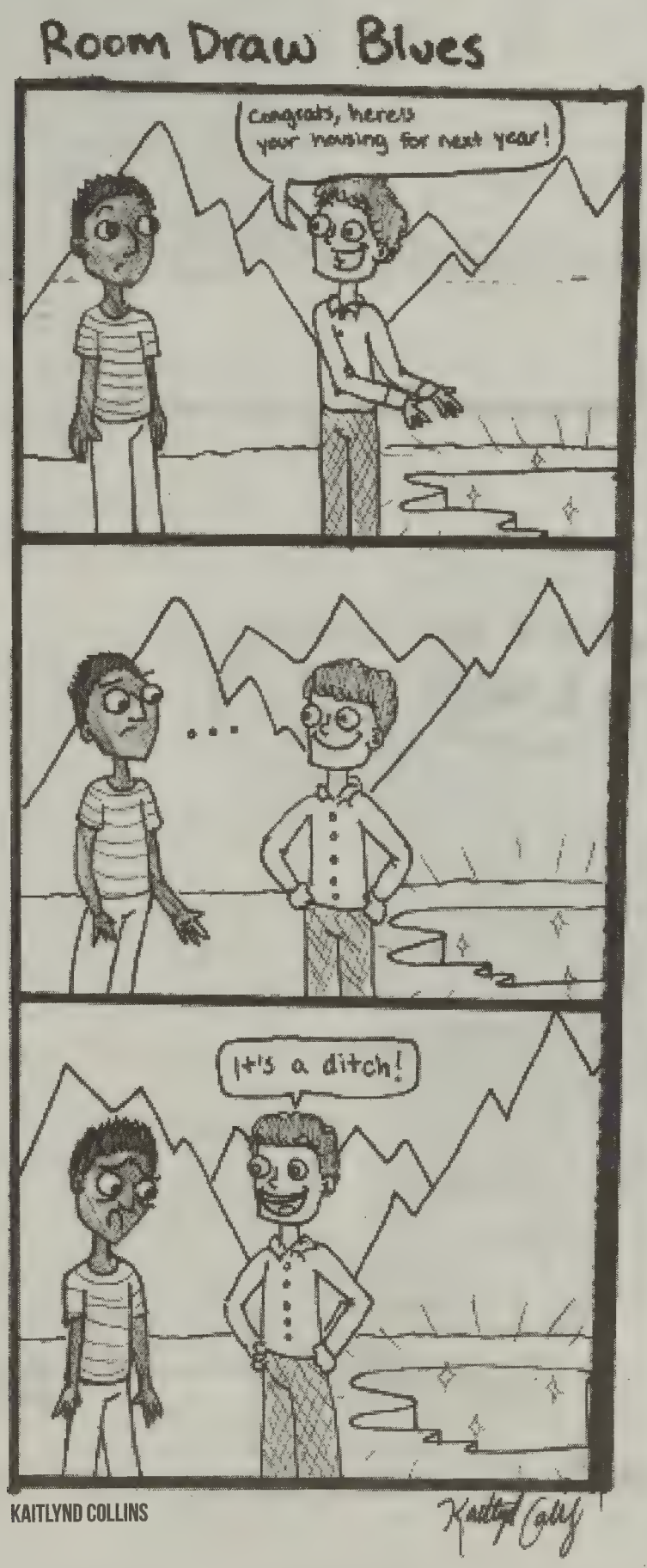
NOLAN ELLSWORTH

WIN HOMER



(SUBTEXT: YOU ARE A LOUTISH BARBARIAN WITH NO BASIC HUMAN MANNERS AND I AM HERE TO MAKE YOU THE VIRTUOUS PEDESTRIAN YOU NEVER WERE.)

MILLIE VON PLATEN



KAITLYND COLLINS

'Breathe' Brings Performance to the Pool

By Sarah Boyle
Staff Writer

On Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, April 30, the Middlebury College Department of Theatre and Dance, along with the Department of Music, the Johnson Visual Arts Residency Performance Fund and the Natatorium, co-hosted "Breathe," an underwater opera and dance event that aimed to connect with the audience through sound, sight and movement.

The interactive and awe-inspiring piece is the brainchild of Artist in Residence Gabriel Forestieri, composer Loren Kiyoshi Dempster and writer and visual artist Adrian Jevicki. The performers included Middlebury students of dance and music.

The performance began with two men dressed in tuxedos in the pool, one holding his breath at the bottom and one playing a string instrument that was fully submerged underwater. The echoing sound from the instrument vibrated through the water, was caught by an underwater microphone and resonated throughout the Natatorium. The music produced a calming yet eerie effect when combined with the voice overlay which discussed the question of one's place in the universe.

The two men then began to float on top of the water, one moving the other around as if to help him come back to reality. Observing this human connection in the inhumane world of the water, the audience saw two interlocked bodies as a representative of the depth of our relationships.

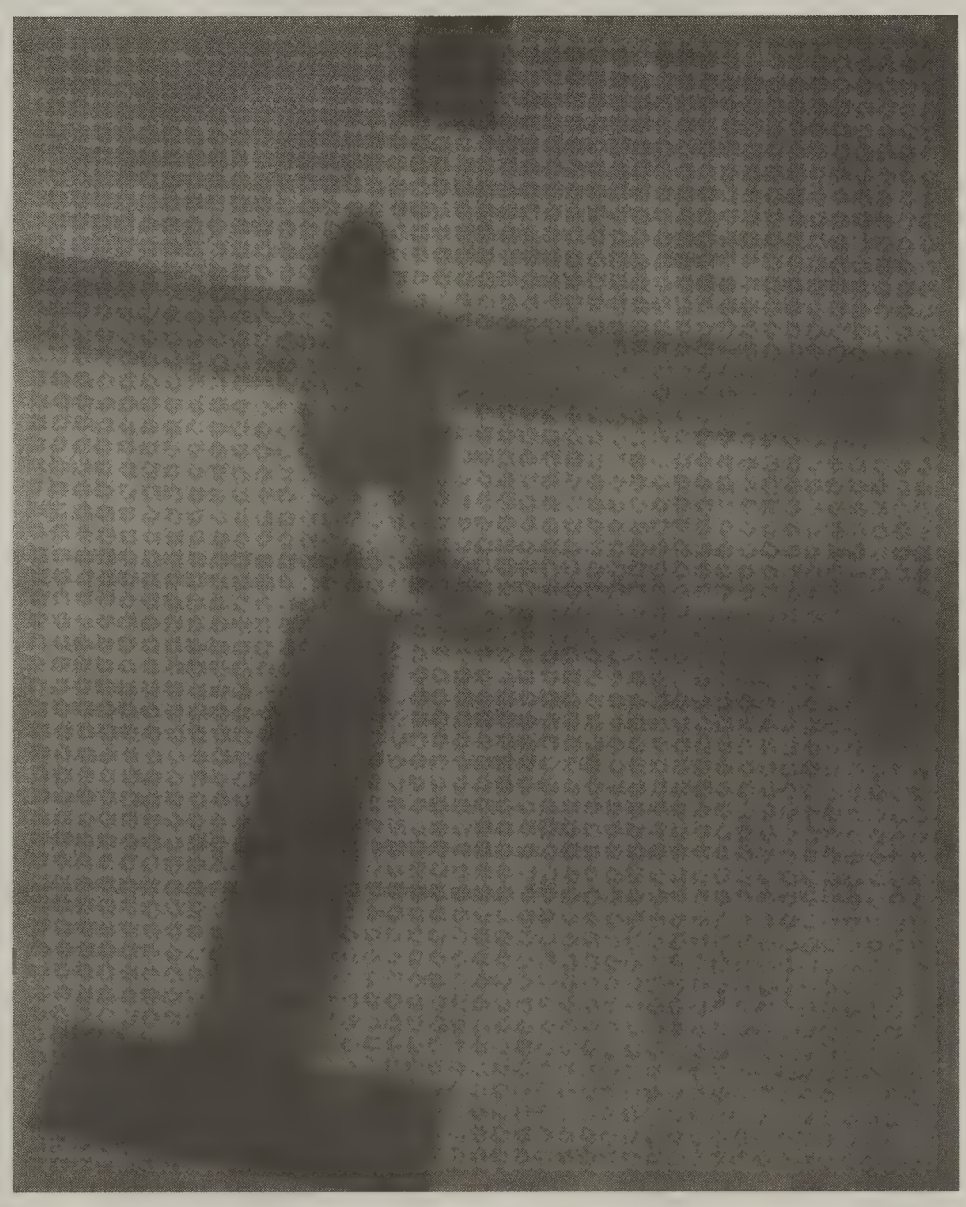
While these actions transpired in the pool, performers walked around the water's edge almost in a trance, following each other and singing dream-like tunes that reverberated around the area due to the acoustics of the Natatorium. The sensory image of the dazed performers combined with their soothing and pensive lyrics created a sense that the audience was viewing someone's consciousness and memories.

"Breathe" was not solely pensive and tranquil, however. At one point the audience walked down from the bleachers and to the edge of the pool in order to view two dancers and a percussionist perform in a flurry of movement and lively sounds. Using the bleachers as a platform for a form of tap dance and drumming, the performers fed off of each other's energies to create an intense sense of passion and expression. This portion was all improvisation, demonstrating the importance of the performers being present and connected to one another in that moment of high intensity collaboration.

The voice overlay sought to connect the audience's experiences with the events that were transpiring. At one point the audience was encouraged to think about their first memories with coloring books and ask themselves if this was an apt form of creative expression, or if it fostered a sense of controlled actions. Bringing the audience back to their own thoughts allowed for the piece to be about more than the simple but mesmerizing movements in the novel environment of the water. It was also about the way that we can interpret our current environment in order to reflect on our past.

Observing this human connection in the inhumane world of the water, the audience saw two interlocked bodies as a representative of the depth of our relationships.

One of the standout moments of the performance was when a seemingly professional diver confidently dove from a diving board into the water with little hesitation. Clad in a tuxedo, this amazing athlete performed descents of increasing skill and complication into the pool that seemed to belong at the Olympics. The combination of this impressive athleticism with the sounds of classical music was a sensory experience that could not be found anywhere else.



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

The performance took place in the College's Natatorium.

Continuing with the theme of intertwining impressive athletic ability and music, the performance also featured a kayaker frequently submerging himself and coming up for air in a circular dance-like motion. This complicated rotating sequence paired with the entrancing dances of the students and the reflective music of the singers and instruments was stunning.

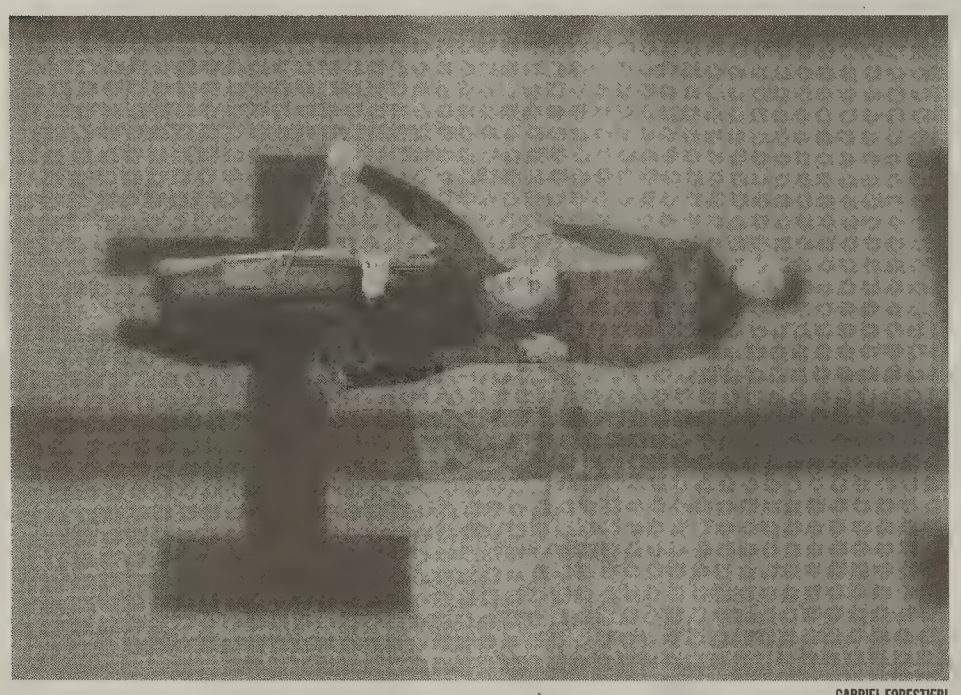
Bringing the audience back to their own thoughts allowed for the piece to be about more than the simple but mesmerizing movements in the novel environment of the water. It was also about the way that we can interpret our current environment in order to reflect on our past.

The audience was encouraged by performers to move around the space and observe the actions surrounding them from different angles and perspectives. There were floating docks going across the pool that allowed the audience to engage with the water itself and feel the waves due to the motions of the performers.

One of the student performers, Madeline Ciocci '20, hoped that audiences were able to "see the beauty in the fairly simple movement that was done in the piece" as "sometimes the more simple something is, the more meaning and value it can hold."

Because the intended message of the performance was not always clear, "Breathe" gave agency to the audience to experience and understand the piece through their own interpretation. There was no explanation of the performance given in the program, nor was there a speech at the end of the piece to shed light on the inspiration behind the work. This is a refreshing take on performance art, as it allows for the audience to make the piece about themselves and their own thoughts, instead of those of the creator.

One of the many reasons we attend performances is to get lost in the work and move outside of our own perspective. When watching "Breathe," the audience was encouraged not to escape, but to engage with their thoughts and find their own meaning for their new surroundings.



GABRIEL FORESTIERI

"Breathe" challenged the audience's preconceived notions about what performance is, shown here by the underwater playing of a cello.

DON'T MISS THIS

Waiting for Godot

Two men wait by the side of the road for the arrival of the mysterious Godot in this absurdist tragicomedy by Samuel Beckett. Senior 700 work of Kean Haunt '17 and Jackson Prince '17 (acting); 500 Work of Sally Seitz '17 (directing) and Iram Asghar '18 (costume design).

5/4-6, THURSDAY-SATURDAY, 7 P.M.,10 P.M.; 5/5, FRIDAY, 10 P.M., HEPBURN ZOO THEATRE

The Women of Troy

In Don Taylor's new translation of Euripides' classic tragedy, women survivors wait to be shipped abroad from a war-torn city. A grandmother, once queen, watches as her remaining family is taken from her. First performed in 415 BC, this lyrical poem of grief and savage irony is as relevant today as it was then.

5/4-5, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, 2 P.M.; 5/5, SATURDAY, 2 P.M., 7:30 P.M., SEELER STUDIO THEATRE, MCA

Middlebury College Community Chorus

The 90-voice chorus welcomes spring with its popular spring concert including a delightful mix of choral works from times past and present. With a history that dates back more than 150 years, the chorus brings singers together from on and off campus to present this joyful performance.

5/7, SUNDAY, 3 P.M., ROBISON HALL, MCA

Chinese Feminist Fights Guerrilla Wars

By Yvette Shi
Arts & Sciences Editor

In China, a country with the world's second largest economy, women create 41 percent of the GDP. In 1990, Chinese women's annual salary was about 80 percent of their male counterparts. Six years ago, the number became 60 percent. Simple statistics like this, regardless of the complex reasons behind them, blatantly show the unfair treatment received by women in China.

"So we are in an age of conflicts and resistance," said Lu Pin, a leading Chinese feminist activist who gave a talk titled "Feminism in China: Women's Bodies on the Frontline" on Thursday, April 27.

The talk was delivered by Lu in mandarin Chinese and simultaneously interpreted by Jingyi Wu '17, one of the organizers of the event. Wu started the audience off by recalling how she "stumbled upon, by some fate, the very first of young Chinese feminist conferences" as "a young and naïve high school student," and met Lu.

Having worked for the women's rights movement in China for more than 20 years, Lu is the founder of "Feminist Voices," which is "the most influential feminist media in China." Last year, she co-founded a new organization based in the U.S. to support feminist movement back home.

Social media platforms have been Lu and her colleagues' main battlefield for years. In 2012, their project themed "Nude Photos against Domestic Violence" came out on the internet, and featured photos of women with different levels of nudity and symbols of violence or suppression on them. Through these provocative photos, they wanted to gather support for their ongoing plan to advocate for "the legislation of the very first anti-domestic violence law" in China.

In reality, although their efforts resulted in successful legislation, Lu said that the nude photos had a very limited effect. The few photos that caught attention were taken down by the original website, and most photos simply did not attract many. "So we were quite disappointed. Why aren't people interested in nude photos?" Lu said.

"The deeper reason is that although these photos are nude, they are not sexy. The women in them are not sexy. The type of bodies that they depict are not subject to male gaze. They are not to be fantasized [about], and they are not feminine enough." She argued that because these depictions of "stubborn, calm and angry" women "cannot really be consumed by men," they failed to be disseminated.

From the incident, Lu learned that when women in China's patriarchal society try to give their own definitions of their bodies, and to challenge "the sexiness as the only rule," the society refuses to listen to them. She emphasized the necessity of body resistance, given that women in China are suffering from oppression in the form of "bodily hardships." "The bodies are these suppressed women's last and sometimes only resort to resistance," she said.

China does not seem to lack grassroots feminist initiatives, and many are creative in their ways. In 2013, Lu supported a group of Chinese female university students and their play titled "Our Vaginas, Ourselves" to advocate for women's sexual independence. Unfortunately, in mainstream online media platforms, photos of them holding signs about "What My Vagina Says" received mostly criticism.

Linking the two similar events, Lu concluded: "For the women who cannot be used, the public wants to ignore them. And for the women who refuse to be used and directly challenge men's sexual power, the public gives them harsh criticism."

These incidents also shed light on the social stigmatization Chinese women are facing today, which simply expects them to carry out familial duties. In fact, Lü pointed out that China's current chairman Xi Jinping explicitly expressed that at a news conference in 2012.

Feminists in China were astounded. For Lu, this shows something more than the state's warning of its own feminists. "It has a deeper connotation, which is that the state, through requiring women to stabilize the family, can stabilize the whole nation," she said.

Apparently, the Chinese government's efforts to push back feminism have only increased in recent years. In 2015, five of Lu's colleagues were arrested and detained for a month for organizing a protest on public transportations to call attention to sexual harassment on these very areas. According to Lu, for the state they became "troublemakers," and their actions were "threats to stabilization and the manager of this stabilization, the state."

Actions have become harder for Lu and her fellow activists. Nevertheless, the large number of "ordinary Chinese feminists" did not give up. "We are in an unprecedented age," Lu said. "From 2012, I've witnessed how fast the Chinese feminist community is growing."

Today, many among them are women who are highly educated and live in bigger cities. Their anger has even led to the creation of the term "straight men cancer (直男癌)," which has its own Wikipedia page now, as a criticism of male chauvinists and sexists in China.

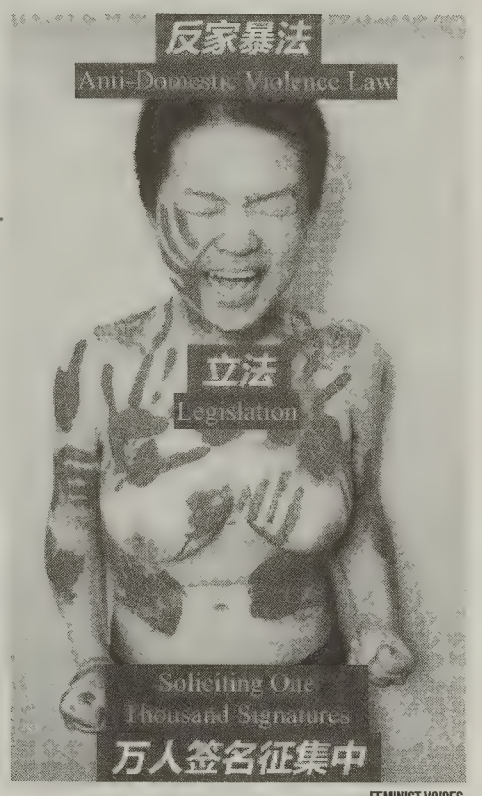
Still, there are existing obstacles for the many feminist activists in China. For Lu, they tend to lack knowledge about the living conditions of the lower class people, the pervasive role played by the state in gender inequality and the ability to "turn their anger into action."

Importantly, the pressure does not only come from within. Lu argued that most people here in the U.S. are probably unaware of the impact of Trump's election on women rights' movements in China.

"Trump's election is seen by a lot of chauvinist men to be signifying the defeat of women and feminism," she said. "On the Chinese internet, the attack against feminism has upgraded to a new level after November of 2016."

After her media platform "Feminist Voices" was censored and silenced for 30 days last year, and seeing the support from around the world she received during that time, Lu co-founded and registered a new organization called "Chinese Feminist Collectives" in New York City.

"For us, the contact with our friends back in China is essential," she said at the post-event dinner at Chellis House. "If you are an overseas organization and lack the contact with domestic communities, the things you say lose their value."



FEMINIST VOICES

The nude photo is part of Lu's project in 2012 to fight against domestic violence.

Women's protests throughout China have led Lu to realize that "the rise of China is happening at the cost of extreme hardships of women." In response to what the next step for feminists in China is, Lu said that the most important thing is to survive and "to live longer than our opponents." She also believes that it is the time for "guerrilla wars," and to "keep 'sabotaging'" whenever they get the chance to intervene.

Her organization is currently planning to host feminist training sessions for high school students in Beijing. "In the face of the very harsh political environment, what we are doing is to continuously expand our community temporally and spatially," she said.

Brentano Quartet Honors "Art of Fugue"

By John Gosselin
Senior Writer

The Brentano String Quartet performed Johann Sebastian Bach's "The Art of Fugue" on Saturday, April 29, in Robison Hall as the first part of the Middlebury Bach Festival, which also included a performance of Handel's Esther. The Art of Fugue commands its place in the repertoire of classical music as the fullest existing exploration of contrapuntal technique, or counterpoint. This reputation can sometimes lead to dry performances that sound like a manual read aloud.

Thankfully, the Brentano String Quartet's interpretation and performance style made for an interesting evening that reinvented this piece for the audience.

At every possible moment, the quartet educated the audience on the meaning of counterpoint and how the musical concept relates to other parts of our lives. At its most basic, counterpoint, or contrapuntal technique, is the combination of multiple subjects in a musical work in a rhythmically and harmonically pleasing way. A piece using the strict rules of counterpoint is sometimes called a fugue, but there exist many pieces that use counterpoint to some extent and they have many different names.

The overall aim of using these rules is to create a piece of music that combines different melodies in creative ways to create something greater than any of them alone. Most music uses two-voice counterpoint, or homophony, in which one voice takes the melody and the other accompanies it. The accompaniment can switch voices, but is always in a subservient position. In strict counterpoint, the voices are usually equal to each other for extended periods of time, sometimes sharing prominent positions but usually working with each other. Nearly all of Bach's music employs counterpoint to some extent, but in "The Art of Fugue" he attempts (and succeeds in) documenting the possibilities that strict counterpoint allows.

The quartet, during breaks from the music, included readings from various literary works that used contrapuntal imagery to illustrate their ideas. These readings were diverse and even included a short play that showed in words what counterpoint means.

In the play, the first violinist began speaking about "The Art of Fugue" and its history. Then, the second violinist spoke about a contrary reading of the history of the work. After that, the first violinist spoke again with new information, but he spoke over the second violinist. Then, after the first violinist stopped speaking, the cellist spoke up with a third opinion about Bach's work.

The players traded these words amongst themselves for some time, speaking over each other, to show the audience what counterpoint would look like if notes were substituted for words.

In addition to the play, which took place just before intermission, the lights dimmed every two or three pieces and the loudspeakers interjected with literary entries from Carroll to Sagan. This part of the performance gave the entire evening a feeling that it was about more than the music, that these pieces had an effect on more than just the world of music, but on everything.

Much of the music itself is similar in length to the modern songs we hear every day, but Bach's pieces have a degree of complexity not seen elsewhere in the classical repertoire. The entire catalogue consists of 14 fugues and four canons increasing in contrapuntal complexity from beginning to end.

JUERGEN FRANK

The Brentano Spring Quartet performed music, read literature and performed a short play to demostrate the dynamic and complex "Art of Fugue".

These fugues consist of subjects and countersubjects, sometimes called answers. Whenever the subject did not repeat in one of the voices in its entirety, that section constituted an episode in the fugue, meant to lengthen the piece and avoid too much repetition. The fugues included contributions from all the players in equal parts.

The original "Art of Fugue "did not include instrumentation markings, meaning that it can be played equally well by string quartet, harpsichord, organ, piano and my favorite, the saxophone quartet. The canons, on the other hand, included only two of the players for the entire piece. They traded musical material between each other in a lighter, less strictly contrapuntal way than in the fugues. Between the canons and the readings, there were plenty of opportunities to relax from trying to hear the interplay between the themes in the fugues.

Beyond the interesting music, the Brentano String Quartet provided an excellent and engaging concert in which they showed their skill and shared their extra-musical knowledge of the piece and those like it.

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT: THE WOMEN OF TROY

By Qian Li (Audrey)
Senior Columnist

VANESSA MILDENBERG

Students perform "The Women of Troy," a fraught and emotional story of war and womanhood directed by Vanessa Mildenberg.

"The Women of Troy," a new adaptation of Euripides's play from more than two thousand years ago, is a lyrical poem of grief and savage irony that is as relevant today as it was then.

"Contemporary playwright Don Taylor's evocative translation is a relentless song of suffering, capturing the women of Troy waiting to be shipped abroad from their war-torn city," the Middlebury Theatre Program webpage advertises. "Officials come and go. A grandmother, once queen, watches as the last surviving members of her family are taken from her one by one. The city burns around them."

Vanessa Mildenberg, a visiting assistant professor of theatre from London, directs the production, which features a company of 21 students. The play will transport its audience to a place and time that encompasses both the ancient and the now, the here and there — it challenges and inspires us in both lyrical and realistic terms.

"On my many travels, what strikes a chord with me, wherever I am, is that there always seems to be an 'over there'" Mildenberg said. "War and conflict is over there, refugees are over there. Women are subjected to organized rape over there, by those people. People are killed in churches over there, by them, those people ... us and them."

One of the chorus members, sociology/anthropology and theatre joint major Mary Baillie '18, found it challenging to remain active and fully immersed in the show at the beginning of the semester. However, after digging into modern war's influences on women, she finds meaning in her individuality and is able to connect the past to the present.

"We are a group, yet each of us carries a very particular backstory," Baillie said. "Our meticulous research into our roles as individuals — a group of very different women who have undergone different atrocities — has helped exponentially in understanding the way I react to what is happening, and also my own place within the dynamics of the group and the play."

Finding this ancient piece of work highly resonant today, Baillie hopes that the sadness rooted in the play will help arouse moments of empathy powerful enough for us to view things differently, especially in a world where death and loss have become so prevalent in media that we are often ignorant of them.

Wentao Zhai '17, a classics major, is taking Professor of Classics Pavlos Sfyroeras's class in which students read the original "The Women of Troy" in Greek. After reading the script, he has visualized what a faithful production would look like. Nonetheless, Zhai is looking forward to being challenged and seeing new things in old forms by watching this fresh production.

"In terms of expectations, I am curious about how the production will particularly connect the play with a modern audience to promote an emotionally engaging experience," Zhai said. "Though the plot, the characters and the relations between them would have been very familiar for the ancient Athenian audience, they are not so transparent for a modern audience. I look forward to watching how the production will introduce these elements and render the language."

"The Women of Troy" will be performed on Thursday, May 4, and Friday, May 5, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 6, at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m., in the Seeler Studio Theatre at the Center for the Arts. There will be a post-show talk back immediately following the production on Thursday night. Tickets are $6 for Middlebury College students.

WRMC Spotlight: Prasanna Vankina

By Bilal Khan
Senior Writer

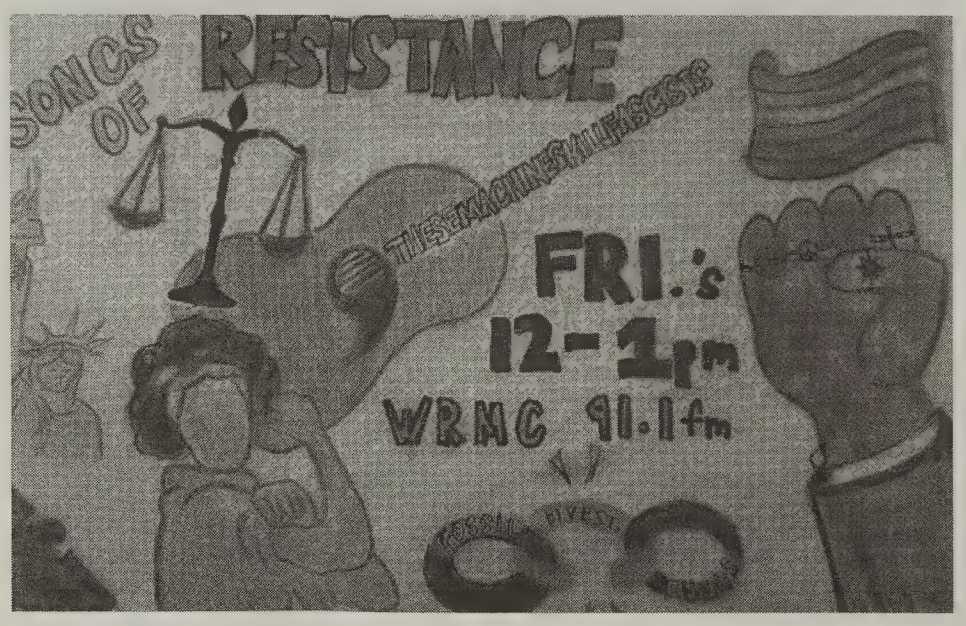
Prasanna Vankina's '18 radio show page on the WRMC website boasts a series of puns, which light-heartedly demonstrate the profound connections between music and political movements. The description reads as follows:

"How do ya address a broken system that perpetuates power and VIOLINS? What's the deal with capitalism which vows to HARMONY one that stands in the way of profit? What do ya do when you catch the Russians TAMBOURINE with your elections? How do ya resist a government that CYMBALizes racism, sexism, homophobia, xenophobia and continues to deBASS scientific consensus? How do you deal with a LYRE in office, a TRUMPET that totally blows?"

Vankina tells you how, loud and clear every Friday at noon, on 91.1 FM, WRMC.

Each week, Vankina sits behind the massive microphone in the tiny WRMC studio in Proctor and plays "songs of resistance." These songs, coming from all around the world, have come to define social movements, as well as speeches of activists and revolutionaries.

The show is titled "These Machines Kill Fascists," and Vankina tells me she got the slogan from Woody Guthrie, the iconic singer-songwriter who traveled with displaced farmers from Oklahoma to California and brought their folk and blues songs to mainstream audiences. In 1941, the "Dust Bowl Troubadour" painted "This Machine Kills Fascists" on his guitar as a symbol of opposition to fascism, and it has inspired musicians and activists ever since.



PRASANNA VANKINA

The name of Vankina's show, "These Machines Kill Fascists," comes from Woody Guthrie, who had the saying on his guitar as a symbol of resistance to fascism.

In a "Trumpified" world, a radio show airing voices of dissent is Vankina's own small way of playing a part in the resistance. She wants us all to realize the power of alternative forms of resistance, especially music. She wants us to listen to The Clash and "queen" Ella Fitzgerald and to remember that protesting does not have to be ugly. She wants us to listen to "Born in the USA" again, and stop misunderstanding Springsteen's powerful (and ironic) lyrics. And there are musicians out there making this resistance music today; Vankina recommends Vikesh Kapoor and Valerie June.

In a "Trumpified" world, a radio show airing voices of dissent is Vankina's own small way of playing a part in the resistance. She wants us all to realize the power of alternative forms of resistance, especially music.

This is not Vankina's first WRMC show. She did a solo show for two semesters called "If Music Be the Food of Literature, Play On," in which she selected a famous literary character or author each week and created a hypothetical mixtape for them. She enjoyed piecing together character sketches, biographies and quotes to curate a truly representative playlist each week, even though it took her quite a bit of time. Both her shows have required a significant weekly time commitment, but Prasanna enjoys the process. Her philosophy is simple: a bad radio show is worse than no radio show, and so she doesn't see any point in putting together a mishmash of barely relevant songs and disappointing her dedicated listeners. (Take note, other WRMC DJs.)

For Vankina, radio is an entirely unique platform for expression, since it puts her in the spotlight and lets her play all that incredible music though there is no visible audience. This allows her to be authentic in a way that is simply not possible in other media.

She loves to hear her friends, teachers and family tune in, but the really special moments have occurred when a stranger or someone she barely knows has called in, like the time a woman called in two weeks after sitting next to her on a flight from Detroit to Burlington during spring break. Or, when a few weeks ago, Vankina got an email from a high school teacher out in Maine with the following note: "Thank you for playing Phil Ochs this afternoon. He really thought he could change the world by singing and exposing the truth. He thought he could 'sing louder than the guns.'"

It made her day, she told me. It would have made mine too.

Vankina is on a break till the end of term, but her show continues next fall. Be sure to check it out!

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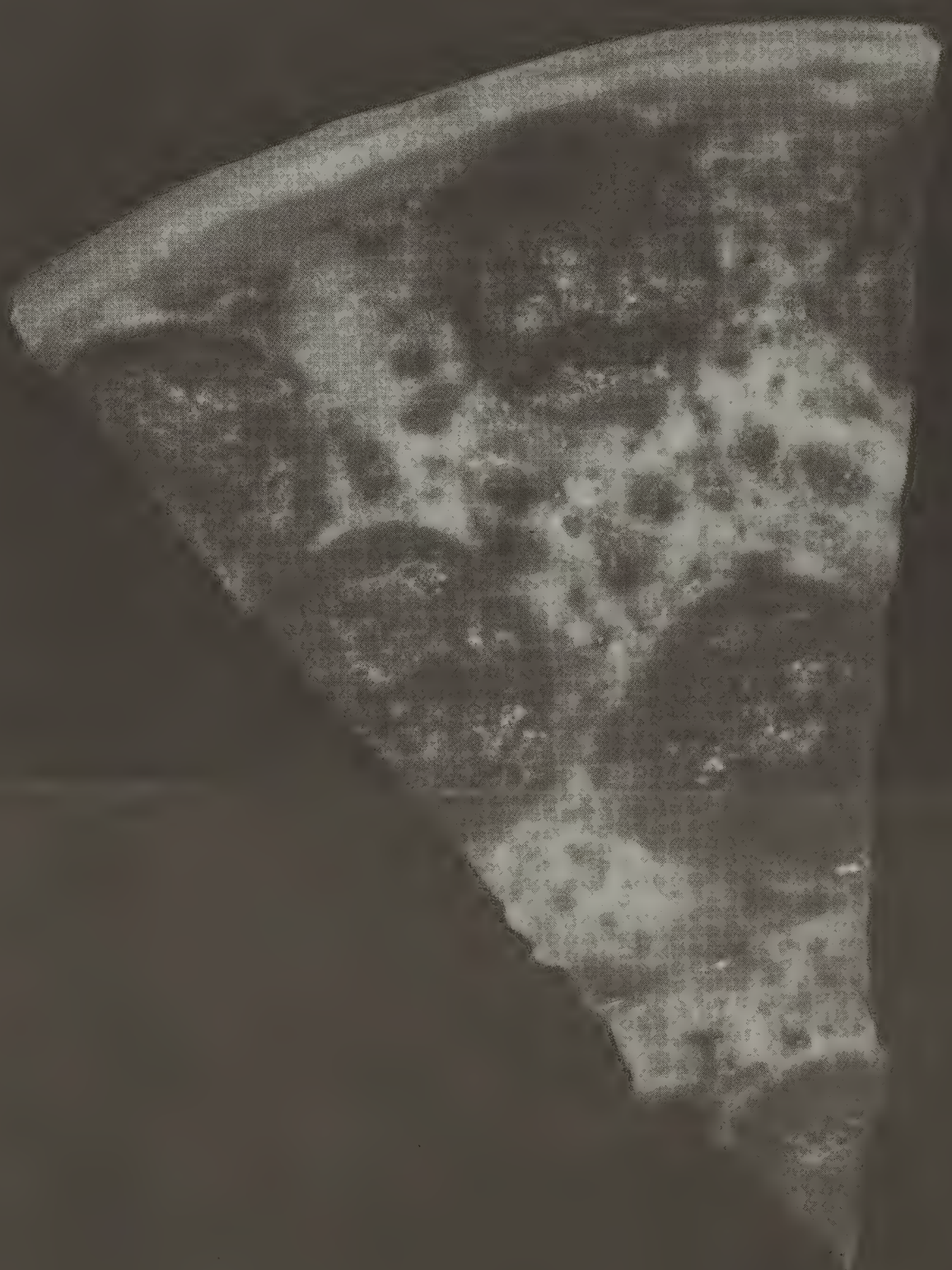
What do you think is the most pressing issue at Middlebury? What could you do to address it?

(Please answer on this page, tear the section off and place it in one of the corresponding boxes at the dining hall entrances)

TREAT YOURSELF.



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Tennis Teams Finish Regular Seasons

By Claire Messersmith
Contributing Writer

Last weekend, April 29-30, both the men's and women's tennis teams rounded out their last matches of the regular season, posting wins across the board. The men's team ended their season with a 6-3 win at no. 8 Amherst, while the women swept both Amherst and Skidmore 9-0.

The women's team has moved up to no. 2 in the national polls, closing out a 10-game winning streak.

"Coming off the weekend, we feel united as a team," said Maddi Stow '20. "Now that we have a taste of how winning feels, we want to keep it up heading into postseason."

On the men's side, the top-ranked team won nine of their last 10 matches. Both teams will return to the court next weekend at the NESCAC Championships, hosted by Williams.

The women's team kicked off the weekend with an outdoor home match on Saturday. The hosts jumped to a 3-0 lead after doubles play, and won straight-set wins in five of six matches in singles. Heather Boehm '20 breezed by her opponent at no. 5 and Alexandra Fields '17 clinched the match at the top spot.

Christina Puccinelli '19 posted a win at no. 2 singles, while Stow fought back from a set down at the sixth spot.

Boehm also posted her 12th-consecutive victory overall, and clinched the match with a 6-1, 7-5 victory at the no. 2 spot over Skidmore.

Last week, Boehm commented that the key thing getting Midd through each match is the energy.

"The support we give to each other on and off the court gives us a huge advantage over other teams," she said.

The men's side travelled to Amherst, Mass., on Sunday to close out their regular season slate. The Panthers won two of three matches during doubles play, only allowing the hosts to get on the board with a win at no. 3.

Lubo Cuba '19 and William de Quant '18 battled at no. 1, forcing a seven-point tie breaker during their doubles match. Amherst scored the first four points, but the top-ranked Middlebury pair answered with seven-straight points, pushing Middlebury up 2-1.

"We did what we've been doing all season," Cuba said. "We compete hard and play to our strengths and we were fortunate enough to walk away with a win today."

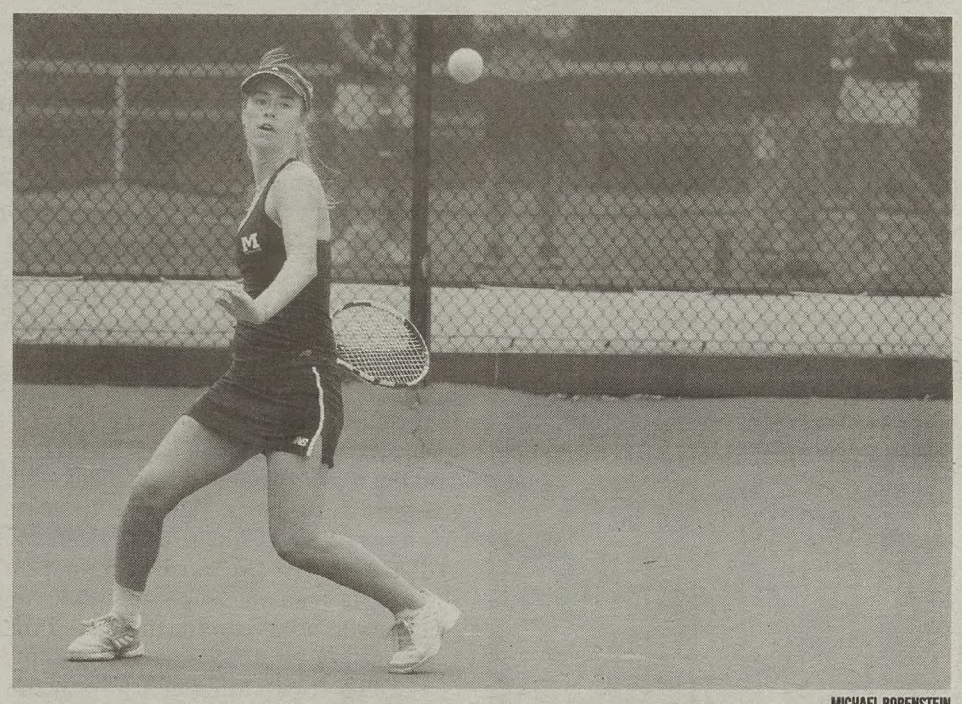
Entering singles, Cuba claimed Middlebury's third point with a 6-2, 6-4 victory, while de Quant also followed up with a 6-3, 6-4 win at no. 2.

The team only suffered two following losses in singles play. Hamid Derbani '17 clinched the match at no. 3 with a tough 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (5) win.

Both teams roll into NESCACs this weekend, May 6-7, coming off hard-fought victories.

"We are ready to compete for each other and for Midd," Stow said about the teams' momentum. "We want to keep that in mind as we compete under increased pressure."

"Our mindset won't change for the postseason," Cuba added. "We have been working hard every single practice and workout and that'll stay consistent. We know we put in the work and I think that'll reflect in our performance in NESCACs and NCAAs."



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Maddi Stow '20 returns a shot outside at the Proctor courts over the weekend. The women's team enters NESCACs on a roll with a 10-game winning streak.

Women Third, Men Fourth for Track and Field

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

the event types. Pronovost, a multitalented athlete who's a threat to score in a number of competitions, continued her strong season with a second-place finish in the 100-meter hurdles (14.83) and a fifth-place finish in the long jump (17'0.5"); she also ran the second leg for the fifth-place 4x400 relay team, which was rounded out by Lucy Lang '19, Kate McCluskey '18 and Paige Fernandez '17 (3:59.07).

Other individual highlights for the women included Meg Wilson '20 in the 800-meter (2:14.49, fourth), Abigail Nadler '19 in the 1,500-meter (4:36.96, third) and Talia Ruxin '20 in the 10,000-meter (38:11.38, fourth). Off the track, Kreager Taber '19 pole-vaulted to a second-place finish (10'8") and Jane Freda '17 landed fourth in the triple jump (35'7.75"). In the relays, the 4x800-meter relay team of Anna Willig '20, Erica Dean '20, Skinner and Wilson crossed the line second overall (9:22.91).

For the men, additional strong efforts were recorded by a number of Panthers in the 800-meter run: James Mulliken '18 came in second (1:52.88), Nathan Hill '20 finished fourth (1:53.88) and Kevin Serrao '18 crossed the line fifth (1:54.10). Serrao also finished third in the 1,500-meter run (3:52.89). In the sprints, Adam Markun '17 dashed to third place in the 200-meter race (22.06) and Michael Pallozzi '18 wound up fifth in the 110-meter hurdles (15.28). On the field side, Alfred Hurley '19 recorded the second-longest javelin toss of the day (189'6") and Minhaj Rahman '19 landed third in the hammer throw (166'9").

"NESCACs is a really special competition; the entire team is full of energy and hype ... Everyone contributes to the meet in some fashion, even if it isn't scoring points."

JOHN NATALONE '19

With the Panthers now firmly in the postseason portion of their schedule, every meet and every event means that much more. Natalone felt confident about his team's chances. "The outlook for the rest of the postseason is great," he said. "We have many team members who are right on the cusp of qualifying for late postseason meets such as Open New Englands and DIII Nationals, which should make for an exciting upcoming meet this weekend at DIII New Englands."

"In terms of positives, we have a lot of athletes qualified through this weekend, which should keep the good vibe of NESCACs going strong. Also, a lot of people are hungry for a season PR — myself included."

He warned that the team wouldn't just be able to coast through the end of their season, though. "We have some health related things to improve upon," he said. "I've been battling back issues, and many team members are nursing shin and hip issues. Staying healthy through these next couple of weeks will be important."

Middlebury will head down to Williams this weekend to compete in the Division III New England Championships, the last chance for athletes to qualify for the Open New Englands the following week and Division III Nationals the week after.

Upset Alert: Men's Lax Knocks Off Amherst

By Colby Morris
Staff Writer

After clinching the sixth seed in the NESCAC tournament last week when they were on the brink of elimination, the men's lacrosse team kept the momentum rolling with an upset victory over NESCAC no. 3 seed and no. 11 nationally ranked Amherst last Saturday, April 22, in Amherst, Mass. The 12-11 win secured Middlebury a spot in the NESCAC semifinal round. The Panthers are set to start off the championship weekend on Saturday, May 6, when they square off with the country's no. 1-ranked, undefeated Bates Bobcats.

While their upcoming matchup looks daunting, the Panthers played Bates closely in their meeting last month, as they played to a final score of 15-12 in Lewiston, ME. If goalie Chase Midgley '19 has another performance two days from now like he did last Saturday, anything is possible for the Panthers, who are trying to add some late season magic to make it to the NCAA tournament despite being heavy underdogs. Midgley had a season and career best 24 saves against Amherst, securing the win with three saves in the final 36 seconds in just his seventh career start in the net.

For the Panthers, Danny Jacobs '20 led the way against Amherst with a team high four goals. Two of his goals came within the game's first 21 seconds. After the Mammoths scored three unanswered goals, Jacobs' teammate, Matt O'Neal '19, added one of his own to tie the game at three all as the seconds ticked off on the first quarter.

Chase Goree '20 added another goal for the Panthers before halftime to cut into Amherst's lead, making it 5-4 Mammoths at the midway point of the contest.

After going down 7-4 early in the third quarter, the Panthers found that the offseason was biting at their heels. On the brink, the Panthers filled on the switch as they went on a hot streak to bring the score back to even after goals from Jacobs, Parker Lawlor '18 and A.J. Kucinski '20.

The 7-7 tie lasted into the fourth quarter before each team started trading goals to make it a thrilling down-to-the-wire finish.

Henry Riehl '18 scored two straight goals for Middlebury before Amherst struck back to take a 10-9 lead. With just 8:24 left in the game and possibly the Panthers' season, Riehl scored his third goal of the quarter to tie the score up at 10.

A few moments later, Jacobs continued his great day, coming through once again with another shot into the back of the net to give the Panthers their first lead of the day at 11-10.

Amherst didn't go away easily though as the home team shot back, getting one by Midgley with 3:42 remaining in the game to tie the game back up at 11-11. Not to be deterred Jacobs finished off his incredible day with an accurate strike from 12 yards out to put the underdogs on top 12-11. Midgley's effort in the net over the final minutes secured the win for the Panthers, as they celebrated with a jubilant spring towards the Middlebury sideline as time ran out.

The Panthers avenged a tough loss to Amherst earlier in the year where they fell by a score of 20-11, evidence they have come a long way and demonstrated resolve in the face of being bitten by a ferocious injury bug throughout the season. The season's pivotal game in Lewiston will get underway Saturday at noon.

"As a group we are looking forward to the challenge ahead of playing Bates," said Midgley. "We are confident and excited for the match up ahead of us."

BY THE NUMB3RS

3 *year winning streak that ended for men's golf at NESCACs when Williams won at Taconic last weekend.*

Alex Nichols '17's winning time in the 400m-dash at NESCACs last weekend. **48.43**

~275 *Number of miles baseball will travel in two weeks on the way to Waterville for NESCACs.*

Catie Skinner '17's time in the 3,000m steeplechase, which she won by a margin of 8 seconds. **11:09.11**

Playing With Pride, Softball's Season Comes to an End

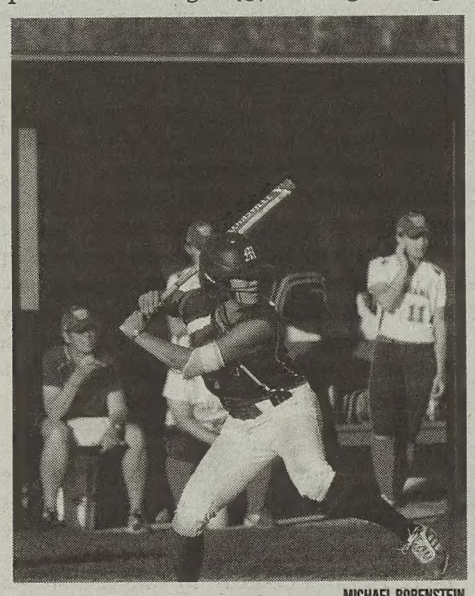
By Sebastian Sanchez
Sports Editor

Hosting their final three-game series of the season, the softball team geared up to compete against Williams on Friday and Saturday, April 28-29.

The Panthers lost the first contest in heartbreaking one-run fashion. The Ephs scored on an error in the top half of the first frame. Williams' Jessica Kim reached base on an error, stole second and scored on a double to tally the sole run of the game.

Though Allison Quigley '18 gave her best outing of the season — giving up one run earned on six hits and six strikeouts — Middlebury was unable to muster any offense.

Highlights from Friday's game were scarce, but Melanie Mandell '20, who posts a team-high .457 batting average, went 2-3, continuing her stellar first year season.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Hye-Jin Kim '17 takes one of the final plate appearances of her softball career against Williams last weekend.

Taylor Gardner '18 said that the 1-0 loss was hard to swallow.

"It was a tough one, but I am very happy how the team showed up to play today," Gardner said. "This has been the best we have played Williams in three years!"

The loss on Friday afternoon put an end to Middlebury's hopes of reaching the NESCAC playoffs. They fell to 4-6 in conference play.

Middlebury headed into Saturday's doubleheader looking to close the season on a high note by stealing two wins from the first-place Ephs; unfortunately, they fell short.

"Middlebury softball will be back stronger than ever next year. With two pitchers coming in, a lack of pitching will no longer be a challenge. The rising senior class is composed of great leaders and the team is incredibly talented."

ERIN GILES '17

In the first game, Middlebury struggled in the field with five errors, allowing Williams to score five runs off eight hits in seven innings. Williams scored two runs in the top of the first to grab an early lead — one the Ephs would hold onto for the rest of the game.

Gardner scored Middlebury's only run of the game when Erin Giles '17 singled down the left field line in the bottom of the first.

Williams tacked on one run in the third and two in the fourth extending their lead to 5-1. Middlebury was unable to muster any offensive momentum as Irene Margiotta '19 suffered the loss.

On the positive side, Mandell went 2-3 again with a couple of base knocks, while Giles recorded her 44th career RBI.

In the nightcap, Middlebury jumped out to an early advantage with a run in the bottom of the first. Hye-Jin Kim '17 reached on a one-out walk, moved to second on a pass ball and scored on a double down the line by Sibohan O'Sullivan '18 — her 25th career double and 42nd career RBI. O'Sullivan's RBI would be the only one run for Middlebury as Williams took the lead for good in the third. Ephs' Kristina Alvarado smacked a single to left, followed by Jessica Kim's single to center and rounded out by Mackenzie Murphy's three-run homerun.

Although the Panthers had themselves in a solid position to cut into the Ephs' lead with the bases loaded and no outs thanks to three-straight singles by Giles, Gardner and Olivia Bravo '20 leading off the sixth, Middlebury could not score a single run.

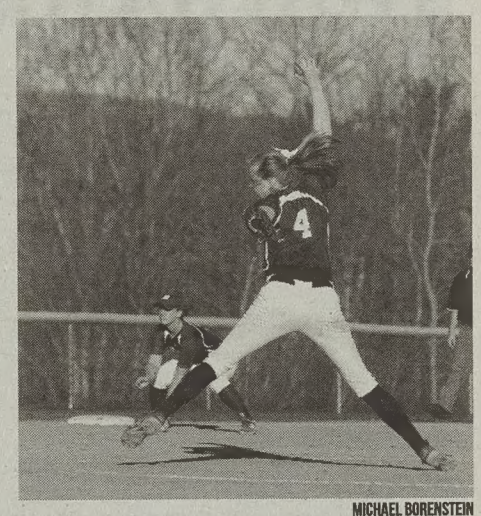
The visitors held on to their 3-1 lead as Allison Quigley '18 took the loss in what was her 13th complete game of the season.

Highlights of the game included an impressive performance by first-year Marybeth Stone '20 who went 3-3 at the plate and Bravo who went 2-3 with a double.

It is the end of an era for seniors Giles, O'Sullivan, Kim and Sarah Freyre '17 who have contributed pride, energy, commitment and hardwork to making the program better.

Giles reflected on her last game in a Middlebury uniform.

"I've been incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to continue my softball career in college," she said. "Middlebury softball not only allowed me to grow as a player, but also as a person. I can't imagine my time at Middlebury without softball, the team has become my family and for that, I'll always be grateful."



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Allison Quigley '18 winds up to deliver a pitch against Williams at the softball field on Saturday.

The future is bright for the softball squad, as ten of 14 players will return to the diamond next spring.

"Middlebury softball will be back stronger than ever next year," Giles said. "With two pitchers coming in, a lack of pitching will no longer be a challenge. The rising senior class is composed of great leaders and the team is incredibly talented. I am super excited to see what they accomplish next year!"

WOMEN'S LAX HOLDS ON AGAINST AMHERST, FORCES REMATCH WITH COLBY

By Jake Turtel
Staff Writer

About a month ago, on April 1, the Middlebury women's lacrosse team trounced Amherst 13-3. This ten-goal margin, however, would not be repeated in the first round of the NESCAC tournament. The top-seeded Panthers hosted the Mammoths at Kohn Field, looking to start their postseason title defense.

Amherst got on the board first with a goal less than five minutes into the game. Amherst goalie Kyra Gardner blocked a shot by Jenna McNicholas '19, but ten seconds later Sara DiCenso '19 evened the score with an assist by classmate Emma McDonagh '19. The Mammoths responded with a tally of their own, giving Amherst a short-lived lead. After an Amherst save off of a Casey O'Neill '19 shot, Bea Eppler '17 finished with a goal.

"Colby is definitely a good team, but I think that we have the skill and desire to win, and continue on to the NESCAC championship game ... Any and all fans would be greatly appreciated, because a hyped up crowd can really make a difference."

ALEX WHITE '19

At the start of the next possession, Mary O'Connell '17 (NESCAC player of the week for May 1) controlled the draw. This led to two quick shots by O'Connell and McDonagh within two seconds of each other, both of which were saved by Gardner. At 18:50, however, O'Neill beat Gardner, giving Middlebury a 3-2 lead. About two minutes later, O'Connell was once again involved, scoring a transition goal on an assist by Hollis Perticone '18. Two Amherst goals tied the game at four apiece, and for just over 13 minutes no team scored. With 1:33 remaining in the opening period, however, Eppler gave the panthers a 5-4 lead. With no more goals, that score held until the second half.

In the second period, Perticone controlled the draw. After a wide shot by DiCenso, Perticone notched her second assist of the day, passing to Eppler who gave the Panthers a two-goal lead. Four minutes later, O'Connell converted a free position opportunity into another point; Middlebury now led 7-4. Amherst, however, would not give up; they closed the gap to two before five consecutive Mammoth shots either missed wide or were saved by Kate Furber '19. DiCenso, assisted by Perticone, gave Middlebury a three-goal lead once again, 8-5.

The Mammoths then scored twice within two minutes, threatening to ensue a comeback and give the Panthers an undesired early exit. With 22 seconds left and Middlebury only up by one, Furber made a clutch save, basically sealing the victory for the Panthers. Furber finished with a dozen saves, while Eppler finished with three goals and Perticone an equal number of assists.

Middlebury will move on to face Colby College this upcoming Saturday at noon, looking to push their home winning streak to 15 and avenge a regular season loss to the Mules.

Alex White '19, who picked up two ground balls and caused two turnovers on defense, said, "over the past week, we've had really productive practices and have made some big strides in developing our team, so it's anyone's game! Colby is definitely a good team, but I think that we have the skill and desire to win, and continue on to the NESCAC championship game."

White added that, "Any and all fans would be greatly appreciated, because a hyped up crowd can really make a difference."

For O'Connell the game on Saturday will have extra meaning, as she understands that her career as a Panther is winding down.

"It's definitely bittersweet as a senior because I want to cherish every moment with these girls and my fellow seniors, and for now we'll take it day to day and enjoy every moment until the last," O'Connell said, adding that "the team remains extremely confident [in Middlebury's] ability to go far into post season."

Talent, strong leadership and a will to win is a dangerous combination.

The start time for the semifinal matchup with Colby is set for 12 p.m. at Kohn Field this Saturday.

GREAT 8 EIGHT

RANKING — TEAM
Case's Court

1 BASEBALL
Sebastian, was that you who did the 8 last week? You guys are underselling yourselves. I mean, we're talking about playoffs!!!

2 WOMEN'S TENNIS
They've completed an undefeated run through the NESCAC schedule to wrap up the regular season crown.

3 MEN'S TENNIS
They only lost one time in conference play, so look for them to redeem their loss to Wesleyan and win the conference tourney this weekend.

4 MEN'S LACROSSE
They pulled the upset with a 12-11 win over Amherst in the 'CAC quarters last weekend. Will they keep the ball rolling this weekend?

5 WOMEN'S LACROSSE
Well, that was a close one against the whatever they call themeselves now from Amherst. Will they avenge their loss to Colby with a win Saturday at Kohn? Check ed's picks to find out!

6 TRACK AND FIELD
Fine showing for the team at NESCACs. Look for them to have another good week at DIII New Englands.

7 SOFTBALL
Valliant effort last weekend against Williams was not enough to save their season, as their exciting 17-win campaign ended.

8 BEARS' DRAFT TRADE
**BREAKING*: #Bears have traded away all their remaining draft picks for the next two years for a fistful of magic beans.*

Men's Golf Comes Up Short at Taconic

By Will Case
Sports Editor

The men's golf team saw its streak of winning the NESCAC tournament end at three last weekend, April 29-30, when they played at the Taconic Golf Club in Williamstown, Mass., for the second time in as many weeks.

Williams dominated the event, shooting a collective 18-over 586 with the tournament's lowest four scores all coming from Ephs. First-year Will Kannegieser shot a 145 for the weekend, taking individual championship honors by one stroke over fellow first-year Sam Goldenring. Just behind the Ephs' pair of first-years was its pair of seniors as Jacob Watt-Morse shot a 147 and Grant Raffel shot a 148. The best round of the tournament belonged to Goldenring, who followed a 76 in Saturday's round with a one-under 70 on Sunday.

The weekend totals for Middlebury, Trinity and Amherst were no match for that of the Ephs. The Panthers and Bantams tied for second with each shooting 602's for the tournament. Amherst, competing in the event at the Mammoths for the first time, was a distant fourth as they shot a collective 628 over the two rounds.

Leading the Panthers were the usual suspects, as Rodrigo Andrade '17 and Phil Morin '19 recorded the lowest score for the Middlebury squad in what proved to be Andrade's last collegiate competition. Andrade, the defending NESCAC individual champ, shot a 76 on Saturday and a 74 on Sunday.

"I felt like my putter was a great asset this weekend," Andrade said. "It was the reason why I was able to score the way I did."

The weekend-total of 150 actually was one stroke better than his score at NESCACs last year, although those were at the Ralph. Despite his low scores, he was never in the running for a repeat individual championship.

"I felt like this weekend was a blast and a true wake up call to the changes in NESCAC golf over these past few years," Andrade said about his final weekend of collegiate golf. "150 over a weekend would have won most golf tournaments my first three years here but now it seems to be just short of the level of golf we are playing."

Andrade added that he is grateful for his time with the golf team.

"I have gotten to know great guys over the years," Andrade said. "Both of the older kids [Matt Marra '17 and Graham Kenter '17] have taught me so much on and off the course. So have the younger guys, who [I have tried to show] some of the things I have learned in the past. [These] have been huge aspects of my time at Middlebury. Could not be prouder of my team, and could not be prouder of our success."

"I have gotten to know great guys over the years...[These] have been huge aspects of my time at Middlebury. Could not be prouder of my team, and could not be prouder of our success."

RODRIGO ANDRADE '17

On the other hand, Morin was positioned well when play ended Saturday afternoon, as he walked off the course and into the clubhouse with a 73 on his scorecard. The wheels fell off Sunday though, as Morin struggled to the finish line with a 77. However, both of those scores were lower than the 81 and 78 he recorded in the tune-up at Taconic a week prior at the Williams Spring Invitational.

"Game felt pretty good," Morin said shortly after the team wrapped up play on Sunday. "Just a couple misses and some tough bounces. Tough that we couldn't get the job done for four in a row."

One shot behind Morin and Andrade was Reid Buzby '19 who shot a weekend total of 151. The results had to be tough on the sophomore given that only a week before he recorded a 141, 10 shots better, on the same course at the Williams Spring Invite.

"I was extremely confident going into Saturday's round," Buzby said. "My game was in the best place it has been in a while going into the tournament. I think I just wanted to play well too badly and when things started to go wrong I didn't handle it very well mentally. On Sunday I actually injured my neck while warming up and it made it difficult to swing, so I was more focused on the injury than the golf and I think it made me play better. I was more relaxed and was enjoying being out there much more than I was on Saturday."

Jeffrey Giguere '20 was next in line for the Panthers as he shot a 153 over the weekend with a 74 on Saturday and a 79 on Sunday. Giguere's presence at NESCACs kept a running theme of first-year success going for the Panthers. Fitz Bowen '17 and Bennett Dougherty '18 each won the individual conference crown in their first seasons with the program and Buzby and Morin were key factors in the Panthers' ability to three-peat last year.

Giguere had an uneven weekend but his 74 for Saturday's round put him in a position to take the individual trophy and put the team in a position to make it four in a row with good rounds on Sunday. Although Giguere was five strokes off of his own play Sunday he still managed to turn in a factoring score, as Joe Ko '18 could not repeat Saturday's success of 76 with another good contribution in the second round where he shot an 80.

"Today I just couldn't hit the shots," Giguere said once he was back on campus last Sunday. "I felt like my swing was fine, but I would either get unlucky bounces or I just wasn't thinking through the shots as well. I didn't do as good [of] a job of visualizing what shot I needed to hit for the situations I was given."

Reflecting the feelings of his teammates, Giguere commended Williams for playing the collective round of a lifetime.

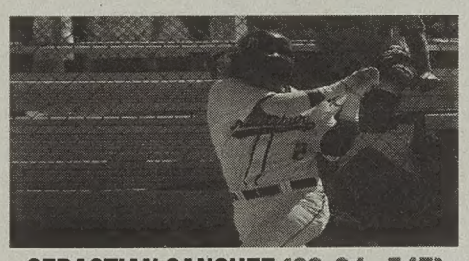
"Williams played impossibly well," the first-year said. "We would have had to shoot so low to catch them. They're great opponents and I don't think we should be too disappointed with how we played. We are a great team and I know we can't wait to get going again next season."

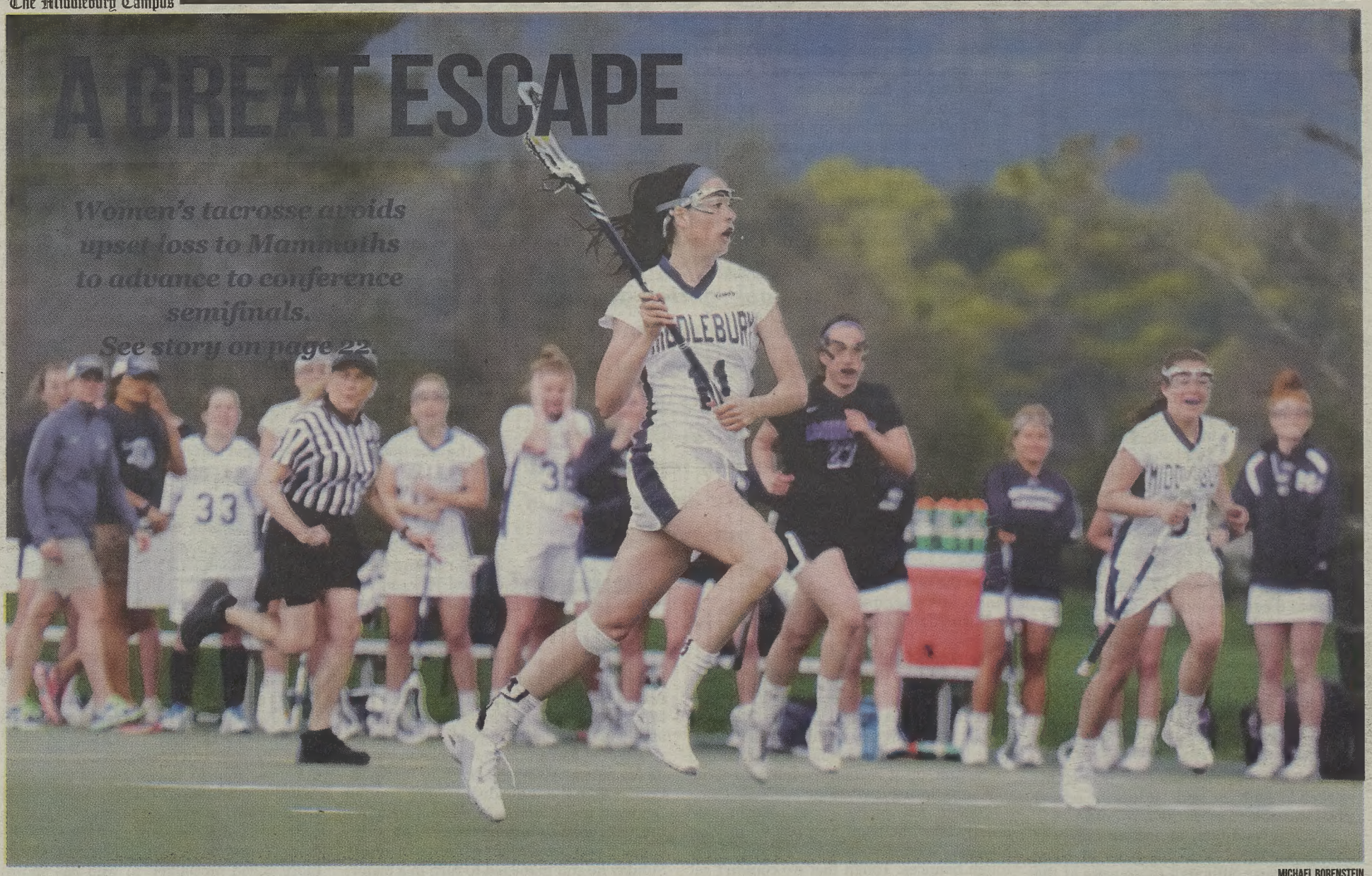
When asked if he was looking forward to developing what seems to be a budding rivalry with Williams' top first-years, Kannegieser and Goldenring, in coming seasons, Giguere said that he is "absolutely" embracing the opportunity to play against them again.

"I actually got the chance to play with Kannegieser today and he is a very solid player," Giguere said of the new individual NESCAC champion. "I could sense that he wanted to beat me badly and the feeling was mutual. I was just unable to get it done today. Goldenring went bogey-free last weekend [April 22-23] for the whole tournament [Williams Spring Invitational], so he's certainly a top player around here. I definitely have to step up my game, but yes, I am looking forward to playing many more rounds with these two players."

While their run of consecutive NESCAC titles has come to an end and although Andrade is graduating, the Panthers' future looks bright. Buzby and Morin, the staples of the roster, have two years left with the team. They will be joined by fellow sophomore David McDaniel '19 who has shown tremendous improvement over this past season. For now though, that puts a wrap on all things golf for the 2016-17 seasons for Middlebury.

EDITORS' PICKS

	Women's Lacrosse: Can the Panthers avenge their loss to Colby when they play in the 'CAC semis at Kohn on Saturday?	**Tennis: Will both men's and women's tennis win NESCACs this weekend?**	**Baseball: Out of their four games against Bowdoin and Tufts to put a wrap on the regular season this weekend, how many games do the Sanchize, Big Bob and the boys take?**	**NBA Playoffs: Tonight at 8 p.m. game 3 Eastern semis, Celtics at Wizards?**
WILL CASE (93-58, .616)	NO It'll be a good game, but something has seemed off with the defending national champs as the season has wound down.	YES They're both on a roll. Hard to see anyone stopping the women's squad. I'll take the men's squad in a rematch with Wesleyan.	TWO The Tufts DH will provide a good gauge for them heading into NESCACs.	WIZARDS If Wall and Beal take better care of the ball and if Porter Jr. gets some more open looks, they'll take game 3. Hey Rob, you mad you're not in first my man?
 **SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (29-24, .547)**	YES Redemption is key and Colby is about to get some of it this week.	YES Isn't that obvious?	THREE Tufts may grab one, but I know we can take the other. Dont let the boys get hot. Oh wait, #itstoolate.	THE C'S Thomas is playing for more than just basketball. He is carrying his sister's spirit into the Finals.
ROBERT ERICKSON (23-20, .535)	YES Will Case is a hack journalist.	NO Will is a slimy cheater who manipulates the standings.	THREE Say it with me. Will. Is. A. Hack.	WIZARDS But he's right on this one.
EMILY BUSTARD (102-106, .490)	YES They'll definitely make the most of their home field advantage.	YES It seems like both teams are doing really well lately.	THREE Even if Tufts gives them a tough time.	CELTICS Because I was right when I picked them two weeks ago.



A GREAT ESCAPE

Women's lacrosse avoids upset loss to Mammoths to advance to conference semifinals.
See story on page 22.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

BASEBALL BUILDS MOMENTUM FOR 'CACS

By Jordan Howell
Staff Writer

The Middlebury Panthers are currently on a three-game winning streak after doubleheaders versus Trinity College and Skidmore College. The Panthers sit three games above 0.500 with a season record of 16-13.

On Saturday, April 29, the Panthers split a doubleheader against the Trinity College Bantams. In the first game the frames remained empty until the top of the third inning when Trinity's Erik Mohl loaded the bases and walked in Jason Lock '17 to give the Panthers a 1-0 lead.

The Bantams got of the jam, however, with an inning-ending double play stranding three Middlebury baserunners. Though the Panthers held a 2-1 lead, things started to go awry for Middlebury as Trinity opened up for five runs in the bottom of the fifth inning. Leading 6-2, the hosts tacked on three more runs in the bottom of the sixth to lead 9-2. Middlebury secured another run in the top of the seventh, but Trinity's defense held and the Bantams escaped with a 9-3 win. Colin Waters '19 recorded the loss allowing six runs (three earned) while striking out three.

In the nightcap, the hosts were not as successful as Middlebury's offensive found its usual groove.

The Panthers took an early 1-0 lead when Justin Han '20 homered to deep left in the top of the first. Middlebury scored again in the third when Han tripled into the right center gap and scored on a single by captain Lock. Trinity scored their first run of the game in the bottom of the fourth, but the Panthers were quick to retaliate and did so in impressive fashion.

The top of the sixth started when Bantam's pitcher Matt Koperniak loaded the bases followed by Han taking pitch to the back for the first run of the inning. Lock blasted a deep fly ball to center field allowing the runner on the third to tag up and score — Sam Graf '19 followed behind with a triple in the right-center gap scoring two more. Leading 6-1, Johhny Read '17 came into pinch hit and blasted another triple to right center scoring Graf. Finally, with a 7-1 lead, First Year Kevin Woodring '20 — on the first pitch of his at bat — blasted a 360 foot shot over the left field wall into the bullpen.

Trailing 9-1, Trinity managed to push one run across the plate, but the Bantams proved unable to overcome the deficit and recorded the 9-2 loss. Robert Erickson '18 earned the win, pitching five innings and allowing one, while Dylan Takamori '17 allowed one run in two innings of relief.

After enjoying a home-cooked meal at Alan Guild '20's residence, the Panthers headed up to Saratoga Springs for a doubleheader against the Skidmore Thoroughbreds.

Colby Morris '19 started game one for Middlebury on Sunday, April 30 and could not be touched through seven innings, tossing his third complete game. The hosts scored their only run in the top of the first inning and the Panthers easily matched that in the top of the third when Read drew a walk, stole second and scored on a double by Gray Goolsby '20.

The Panthers built on their lead in the top of the fourth scoring two more runs thanks to a sacrifice fly by Raj Palekar '18 scoring Graf and a triple by Grant Elgarten '20 scoring Guild.

Elgarten drove into two more runs in the top of the sixth smashing a single into left field — he would finish 2-3 with three RBI's.

In the nightcap, the Thoroughbreds put some offensive pressure on the visitors scoring first in the second; but, the Panthers were unphased as Guild ripped a triple into left center scoring Graf and Han in the top half of the third.

Skidmore fought back pushing two more across in the bottom half of the frame and held the lead 3-2 through a scoreless fourth. In the top of the fifth, Middlebury's offense once again came alive as Graf reached on first on a single and scored on a double by Woodring. Elgarten, with men on second and third, blasted a moonshot over the left field wall for his first of the season giving the visitors a 6-3 lead.

Spencer Shores '20 earned the win going five innings, allowing three runs on seven hits with four strikeouts. Conor Himstead '19 came out in the sixth and seventh, pitching two scoreless innings, and earning his NESCAC-leading sixth save of the season.

"We just took care of business," said Lock of the doubleheader sweep. "Our goal is to be a championship team. Championship teams go on the road and beat opponents during the week and on the weekends. Like I said, it was us taking care of business.

The Panthers are on a three game win streak and return to action on Saturday, May 6, against the Bowdoin Polar Bears and Sunday, May 7, against the nationally ranked Tufts Jumbos.

GAINING TRACKTION FOR DIII NEW ENGLANDS

By Rob Erickson
Sports Editor

The Middlebury Track and Field teams kicked off their postseason at the 2017 NESCAC Outdoor Championship hosted by Bowdoin this past weekend. The women, paced by two event titles and a school record, finished third (97.66 points) out of the 11 teams in the conference behind Williams (239.83) and Bates (107); the men, who took home three event victories, wound up fourth (102.50), trailing Williams (175), Tufts (167) and Bowdoin (110).

The top performances for the women came from three different sections of the team: Catie Skinner '17 represented the long-distance runners by smoking the field in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, beating the field by over eight seconds (11:09.11); Devon Player '18 did the throwers proud with an event-winning javelin toss of 137'6"; lastly, the 4x100 quartet of Marisa Edmondson '20, Maddie Pronovost '17, Natalie Cheung '18 and Elizabeth Walkes '20 led the charge for the sprinters, crossing the line in school-record time (48.90) to finish fourth in the event.

For the men, Alex Nichols '17 put together an impressive day in his last NESCAC meet as a Panther. He took home the crown in the 400-meter dash (48.43), his third win in four years at the conference championships; in addition, with the help of Cameron Mackintosh '20, Arden Coleman '20 and Jimmy Martinez '19, he anchored the winning 4x400 relay team that set a new meet record (3:17.45). In the field events, John Natalone '19 won the pole vault with a jump of 14'5.25" (teammate Nathaniel Albers '20 would finish fifth in the same event with a height of 13'11.25").

Although he was a little hard on himself, Natalone had good things to say about the team's showing at the meet. "In terms of my performance at the meet, I'm generally happy with how I did," he said. "I didn't vault as high as I wanted to, but I was just happy to be able to contribute points to the team. As a squad, we performed really well, and I am exceptionally proud of everyone who went to the meet."

"NESCACs is a really special competition; the entire team is full of energy and hype. My performance would not have been possible if it weren't for the vibe set up by my teammates. Everyone contributes to the meet in some fashion, even if it isn't scoring points."

The rest of the team followed the leaders with a number of strong performances across all

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

INSIDE SPORTS

MEN'S LAX UPSETS AMHERST IN NESCACS
PAGE 21

GOLF SEES STREAK OF NESCAC TITLES END AT TACONIC
PAGE 23